PATTOCK'S

Unfinished Notes on the Useful Asclepiads

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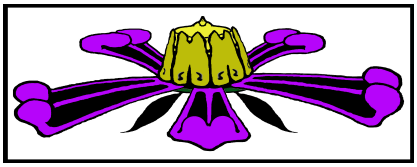

Volume One: Plant Uses

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Introduction

I am publishing this unfinished work because I keep getting distracted by other projects and I have hundreds of bookmarks for more sources and more species with interesting uses. They would probably multiply when I tried to follow them up. I am unlikely to finish this work in the next few years. It seemed like a good idea to just get this polished up and uploaded somewhere. Many of the web addresses for the references will be broken now but I really don't have time to chase them up and correct them. Many more books and articles are online now, so many of the ones without a url may now be available.

The sources are referenced with strings of letters or alphanumerics in square brackets. I am not going to convert those into properly numbered references until I finish this work properly. That will be a huge and tedious task. The reference section will be published in a separate volume. A search within that volume for the alphanumeric should find the desired source material.

I have a lot of photos of some of the easier to obtain plants and herbs mentioned. Made into another volume of electronic book, they would make a huge file and take a lot of time to fit to page size. I will probably put those on my blog, called “Some Bad Photos of Plants” at https://pattheplants.blogspot.com/

The parts from A to Ceropegia of an earlier version of this compilation of reported human uses for asclepiads were published in *Asklepios* numbers 111 and 112. The original title of the article was *Notes on some Edible, Medicinal and Magical Xerophytic, Tuberous or Succulent Asclepiads and a Firework*.

I have since widened the scope of these notes to include some plants that are not xerophytic, tuberous or succulent. I was trying to restrict the proliferating number of species I was finding. I was also, perhaps, pandering to the perceived tastes of the readership of *Asklepios*, who are mostly growers of the strange succulent members of the group like stapeliads and Ceropegias.

The Asclepiadaceae was divided from the Apocynaceae in 1809 and was a separate family until 2000 when it was merged back into the Apocynaceae. The plants that were asclepiads are now regarded as being in three subfamilies within the Apocynaceae - Asclepiadoideae, Periplocoideae and Secamonoideae. The other two subfamilies are Apocynoideae and Rauvolfioideae, containing all those plants that stayed in the Apocynaceae for 200 years.

The Asclepiadoideae is further divided into the tribes Asclepiadeae, Ceropegieae, Eustegieae, Fockeeae and Marsdenieae. Or, at least they were classified like that the last time I looked.

I have kept some of the original preface from 2011, though I have edited it severely, as quite a lot was no longer relevant. I stopped working on taking notes in 2013 and only started again in 2020. I have added a little while polishing it up for this virtual publication. I have included some "facts" from from the literature review section of peer-reviewed articles, where I have not been able to find the original observations online or in the library. I hope these were all meticulously transcribed from the original but, my experience tells me, some will not have been.

There are many changes happening in taxonomy now that genetic analysis is showing the truer relationships between plants. It will probably be a few decades before all is sorted. I suggest consulting an online database such as Kew Garden's Plants of the World Online to find the latest names. Most plants sold by nurseries will probably be sold under old, outdated names for many years to come.

I have usually only included alternative botanical names for the plants where those were used in the original description.

The firework referred to in the original title is *Leptadenia pyrotechnica*. That part was never published in the magazine and it is a bit of a damp squib. The word *pyrotechnica* means "pertaining to the art of fire". The fluff from the seedpods was once used as tinder in producing mundane fires, not the entertaining coloured explosives. I hope readers will find some entertainment and interest in the other uses for *Leptadenia* and the other strange plants included here.

I made the covers and endpapers in GIMP (Gnu Image Manipulation Program), which is free and has much more technical and artistic capability than I have. The fantasy vines are based on the exotic plants designed by Aubrey Beardsley for the cover of the 1893 edition of *Le Mort Darthur* published by JM Dent. [rrrmo]

Pat

Whalley Range, Manchester
9th of February 2026

Preamble

This selection of notes started as I became interested in the edible succulent asclepiads such as *Caralluma edulis* and *Ceropegia bulbosa*. I did not realise quite how many different edible and useful plants there are in this group and was very surprised as the notes grew.

The *Asclepias* species themselves have tubers and have been used for medicine and food widely around the world. They have even been used to produce sugar, by drying the nectar from the flowers. During the Second World War it was claimed that a rubber extracted from Asclepias milkweeds could be produced by fermentation. The remarkable product was fire-resistant and petrol-resistant but did not replace foreign sources within two years as the author expected.[zz1a]

Extending the scope to include the useful plants of the Apocynaceae in the old sense would make this another lifetime's work.

Calotropis is xerophytic and succulent. There is so much available on the uses of these widespread genera that it would take a long time to put it all together and much of it would just boil down to "emetic, purge, medicinal dose close to poisonous, don't do this at home". *Vincetoxicum*, for example, derives its generic name from the Latin for "Conqueror of Poisons". It was used to provoke vomiting and purging to rid the body of poison so as little as possible was absorbed from the stomach and gut. It was the rather rough Greek version of a detox. This genus might include the original Asklepias (ἀσκληπιάς) of Dioscorides.

There are two species of asclepiad that I can't resist mentioning here because they are still used on Mount Pelion in Thessaly where Asklepios was taught the art of healing and herblore by the centaur Cheiron. Both are regarded as toxic but are used occasionally as medicine. A decoction of the leaves and stems of *Cynanchum acutum* L. is used in small doses to help against rheumatism and arthritis and to promote perspiration. A decoction of the leaves and stems of *Periploca graeca* L. is used as a heart stimulant.[zz2a]

I have read all the references given. Some of these give further references for their information but I have not been able to access many of the more obscure and older ones. Some of the references given have more information about the plants. Their botany, appearance or habitat is often described, for example, but the edibility and medicinal information has been given here in full for most of the plants. The reader will notice that most of the uses are described very sparingly as little is given in the originals.

I have tried to preserve the exact meaning of the original reports, occasionally updating the language or translating the jargon. This means that I have created a collation of many plagiarisms, or, more politely, research. Rules of grammar have often been ignored for brevity, I am afraid. I have retained some old and possibly offensive terms for some ethnic groups as modern terms may not be exactly synonymous.

None of these entries should be taken as medical or culinary advice. These asclepiad plants are generally;

1) Endangered in the wild due to over-harvesting or habitat loss. I have not pointed out each endangered plant because most of them are, several are controlled by CITES. The reader can assume that they are all threatened. Please buy from reputable nurseries and seed merchants that grow their own plants from cuttings or seed and don't rape the wild for mature specimens.

2) Unpredictably poisonous (due to location, variety, season, plant part), containing potent variations on strange alkaloids and steroids. Just because other people have survived eating them does not mean you will. Cooking style may affect poisons. A small genetic change could mean the difference between a plant tasting of liquorice and a heart-stopper. These steroids may explain so many of the species being used for wounds as some plant steroids have similar effects (and side-effects) to those synthetic steroids prescribed by doctors to promote healing. Don't blame me for poisonings.

3) Less studied for their effects in humans than the majority of better known herbal medicines. Which means that, even if they cure your furuncles, they may cause a disease that isn't even mentioned in very good dictionaries.

3) Misidentified. Sometimes the original plant being reported as having certain uses will have been described as the wrong species. Many new species are being described all the time. They might have been assumed to be the published species known at the time if seen before the new descriptions were published. For example, *Pervillaea lanata* was first described in 1999, separating it from *Pervillaea tomentosa*. In Latin, “lanata” means woolly and “tomentosa” means like cushion stuffing, both being used of slightly furry plants. Sometimes plants in current commercial nurseries will be wrongly named. Common names can be used of more than one species. Sometimes the reports come through a chain of authors who may not have been reliable narrators. As I said, don't blame me.

4) Strangely beautiful.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all the staff at John Rylands University Library of Manchester for their wonderful stock of books and help. I would also like to thank Tim and Alan of the now defunct International Asclepiad Society for their encouragement and several vital issues of *Asklepios*. The Internet Archive, Biodiversity Heritage Library and JSTOR are always very useful and my thanks go to all those who have worked to make them such wonderful resources for all kinds of research.

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NOTES

A

Adelostemma gracillimum see ***Cynanchum gracillimum***

Adelostemma microcentrum see ***Vincetoxicum microcentrum***

Angolluma laticorona see ***Orbea laticorona***

Anisopus mannii **N.E.Br. {Marsdenieae}**

Nigeria, Hausa: "Kashe zaki" (= destroying sweetness"). [zzzgk]
Kogi State, Ebiraland: Ebira "Omuaruta",
Hausa "Kafi suga". [zzzrf]
Katsina State, Hausa: "Sakayau", "Kashezaki". [zzzrx]

Nigeria, Kaduna State, Kano State & Katsina State. Whole plant. Most used of the diabetes medicines reported in each state with ***Leptadenia lancifolia*** the second most used in each state. [rrrfk] North Nigeria, widely used medicine, whole plant decoction vs. diabetes, diarrhoea and piles. [zzzgk] Nigeria, Kogi State, Ebiraland: leaves with flowers as decoction in water/alcohol mix vs. high blood pressure and jaundice in infants. [zzzrf] Nigeria, Katsina State, oral decotion of whole plant vs. low libido. [zzzrx]

Central African Republic. Whole plant reported used as fish poison. ***Pergularia daemia*** also mentioned among 63 other fish poison species used in the same country - from a hugely diverse range of plant families. [rrrfj]

Apteranthes burchardii **subsp.** ***maura*** **(Maire) Meve & F.Albers**
{Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}

Morocco, young shoots eaten by Berbers, also appreciated by sheep and goats. [zzzuh]

Apteranthes europaea **(Guss.) Murb.**
Often reported as *Caralluma europaea*.

Morocco: Khenifra, Beni Mellal: دغموس "darhmous". [rrrgx]
Aguelmouss province: "Dhagmous". [zzzuj]
Al Haouz-Rhamna: "Ddaghmouss". [rrrgv]
Azilal Atlas: "Daghmous",
French: "Doigts de Dieu" [rrrgu][rrrgv] (= Fingers of God).
Libya, Northeast: "Adghamus". [rrrba]
Spanish: "empeinadora" = used to cure "los empeines" (impetigo) [zzzdg],
"chumberillo del lobo" = little opuntia of the wolf,
"penquilla del campo" = little opuntia of the field/countryside,
"espinal" probably = backbone spine rather than thorny spine. [zzzde, me]

Morocco, Khenifra, Beni Mellal. Plant powder used as a spice in food. Ten raw stems of the plant added to dishes like couscous and tagine. [rrrgw]

The Arabs of the Mediterranean region in Africa call all the forms of *A. europaea* which grow there by the name of "Dachmous" (or "Damus") and eat the stems. [zz240]
In Western Sahara, *Euphorbia officinarum* ssp. *echinus* is called "daghmús" [zz33], in Morocco درغموس "Darrhmous" [rrrgx] and in Algeria *Euphorbia officinarum* is called دغموس "Daghmous". [rrrgy] So this may be a general term used for similar-looking columnar stem succulents, whether edible, medicinal or poisonous. [me]

No location given but implied to be consumed as food in the same paragraph as *Caralluma edulis*, see ***Caudanthera edulis***. Quoted as "*Caralluma europaea* (Guss.) N. E. Br. syn. *Apteranthes gussoneana* Mikan". *Caralluma maroccana* (Hook. f.) Maire was mentioned in the same paragraph [zz237] but is also now regarded as being part of this species, though often given as *Apteranthes europaea* subsp. *maroccana*. As *Apteranthes europaea* subsp. *europaea* also occurs in Morocco, it is impossible to say which reports from Morocco refer to which subspecies. [me] Both subspecies edible. [rrrhn]

Western Sahara. A plant appearing like *Caralluma europaea*, called "Legyeible", young stalks eaten. Flowers have a sweet taste. [zz33] Western Sahara is understudied, until more botanists visit, it is impossible to say which of the potential species this is. [me]

Morocco, Khenifra, Beni Mellal. Stem juice commonly mixed with henna as a hair moisturiser. Used once a week and left on for an hour before washing. All who used it were satisfied by the results. [rrrgw]

Morocco. Aerial parts as powder or juice vs. diabetes, cyst and goitre. [zzzwz] Morocco, Aguelmouss province, the third most frequently mentioned medicinal plant among 280 people questioned, 17% of respondents. Photographed being sold in the Friday souk at Aguelmouss. Used vs. digestive and urogenital disorders. [zzzuj]

Morocco, Khenifra, Beni Mellal. A thorough ethnobotanical survey focussed on just Apteranthes europaea use found that women used the plant much more, 160 respondents compared to 6 men. The most common uses were to treat ovarian cysts and diabetes, more rarely for a wide range of other diseases. Though, if considered together, cysts (breast, liver, kidney, brain, skin and bone) were the next most common use. The powder was often taken with honey. The stem juice was often mixed with milk, orange juice or water. Almost 93% were satisfied with their therapeutic outcomes, a little over 7% were not satisfied. Some serious side-effects were reported, especially with long-term use. Dosages were very variable. [rrrgw] Morocco, Khenifra, Beni Mellal. Stem powder or juice used vs. hypercholesterolaemia. [rrrgx]

Morocco, Al Haouz-Rhamna. In 2014, the antidiabetic uses of the plant were reported:

> "Young stems blended with milk,
> like a juice, are used as an effective treatment
> for diabetes, one glass taken daily after breakfast.
> Young stems roasted over a fire then seasoned
> with garlic and tomato are given once a day
> as an anti-diabetic salad. Half a teaspoon of *Caralluma*
> *europaea* powder in a glass of warm milk, once a day
> after breakfast, is prescribed as an antidiabetic remedy."

In the original French:

> "Les jeunes raquettes mixées avec le lait
> comme un jus sont utilisées comme un traitement
> efficace contre le diabète à raison de prendre un
> verre par jour après le petit déjeunée.
> Les jeunes raquettes rôties au feu puis assaisonnées
> avec ail et tomate, sont administrées une fois par
> jour comme une salade antidiabétique.
> Une demi-cuillère à café de poudre de *Caralluma*
> *europ*[*a*]*ea* dans un verre de lait chaud, une fois par jour
> après le petit déjeuner, est prescrite comme
> antidiabétique." [rrrgv]

Morocco, Azilal Atlas. Reported in 2016 that the juice of the fresh clusters of stems ("raquettes", perhaps "hands", like we say of bananas in English?) is the medicine most often used to fight cysts on the uro-genital apparatus. In the original French:

> "Les raquettes fraîches de *Caralluma europaea* en jus sont les plus utilisées pour lutter contre les kystes de l'appareil uro-génital." [rrrgu]

Libya, Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar: Used vs. diabetes. [rrraz] Libya, Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar, Wadi Alkuf. Used vs. diabetes, hair-fall. [rrrba][rrrgz]

Spain, Almeria, used to cure "los empeines", impetigo. [zzzdg] Visiting the Cabo de Gata National Park in Andalucia, Spain I was informed by a friendly local that this *Caralluma* had been eaten in the past and used as a medicine for joint problems. [me]

I nibbled some raw actively-growing shoots from plants cultivated under strong lights. The stems showed the characteristic marbling of plants in habitat. Mildly bitter and juicy, very similar to ***Apteranthes tuberculata*** in flavour and texture. The unopened flower buds were much the same but not as juicy. [me,2025]

***Apteranthes europaea* var. *judaica* (Zohary) Plowes**
Or *Caralluma europaea* var. *judaica* Zohary, formerly *Caralluma negevensis* Zohary. Also reported as *Boucerosia aaronis*.

Palestine: "Dghemsi",
"Dghibsi",
Artas, Taamre: "Dawa Nafli" (= medicine of a girl called Nafli". [ttt01]
Holy Land Arabic: "darmūs",
"darkmūs",
"tarmūs". [zz146]

Palestine. Edible fleshy branches, much sought after by Bedouin and villagers and thought to be delicious. Eagerly purchased from collectors. Said to freshen the breath. Chewed raw. Also regarded as a medicine. [ttt01]

Used by Bedouin vs. chronic lung diseases such as tuberculosis and cancer. Contains flavanol glycosides and the unusual megastigmanes as well as many of the usual pregnane steroids. [zz30]

Apteranthes gussoneana see ***Apteranthes europaea***

Apteranthes joannis **(Maire) Plowes**

I have not found any reference to this species being eaten by humans but it is very rare, local and grows dangling down cliffs, so it is probably seldom seen. I grew it myself and ate quite a lot of the new shoots when it was actively growing. It grows quickly when happy. It was only very mildly bitter, quite tasty and perfectly edible raw or cooked with spices. I expect it has been eaten occasionally in its native habitat but never reported. [me]

Apteranthes munbyana **(Decne.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Boucerosia munbyana.*

Algeria, immediately west of the port of Oran - around Santa Cruz, very abundant on the rocks by the sea between Cap Falcon and Mers El Kébir. In 1847, Giles Munby reported, while naming the species, that the young shoots were eaten by Arabs and goats. [fffal]

Apteranthes tuberculata **(N.E.Br.) Meve & Liede**
Or *Caralluma tuberculata*. See also ***Stapelia reflexa*** for Afghanistan.

Iran, Hormozgan province: "moghmaar",
"maaranghoosh". [zzzta]
South: "Mogh-e mar",
"Marmutk". [rrrhb]
Pakistan, Afghan refugees: "Pamanai",
"Pamankai". [rrrgo]
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province: "Pamanai",
"Pamankey". [zzzui]
North-West, Thakht-e-Sulaiman Hills: "Pamanai".[rrrck]
Kaniguram, Ormuri & Pathan peoples: "Pamanai". [rrrgk]
Mohmand Agency: "Pamankay". [zzzwx]
Pathan: "Chong". [rrrgo]
Pushtu: "pawuni".
Punjabi: "chunga". [zzztt]
Punjab: "charúnglí",
"chúngí".[zzzsk]
Trans-Indus: "pawanne",
"pamanke".[zzzsk]
Persian: "panjangusht" (= five fingers).[zzzsk]
Balochistan (southern): "ăpītăk",
"ăpūtăk",
near Bella: "boteri". [zzzcq]
Kalat and Khuzdar regions: "Marmootk",
"Marmoot". [zzzua]
Brahui: “Marmot”. (As *Boucerosia aucheriana*). [zzzcp]
Northern, Gilgit, Haramosh and Bugrote Valleys: "Joonay Char". [zzzrs]
Khushab District, Nali: "Chungee". [zzzsj]
Northern, Makerwal and Gulla Khel: "chungan". [zzzub]
Sialkot province: "choongan". [zzztb]

United Kingdom, Manchester: "chonghah". [zz183]
Yemen, southern: "Khusmaa". [zzzpv]
central Abyan governate, Mukeiras district: "Khusmaa" (stem?). [zzznu]
Lawdar, Modyah & Al-Wadhee districts: "Amba",
"Anba" (seed?). [zzznu]

Pakistan, Punjab, Khushab District, Khushab Tehsil, Nali (or Nali Shumali now - Nullee, Salt Range, Beloochistan as it was called then). Dr Andrew Fleming was an Assistant Surgeon with the 4th Regiment of the Punjab Cavalry. After sending rock samples back to his father, John Fleming (a famous naturalist, zoologist and geologist), he was tasked by the government with a survey of the geology of the Salt Range as well as botanizing.

On the sheet for a plant Fleming collected on the 2nd of April 1851 that would be later named *Caralluma tuberculata*, he made the following notes:

> "Nat. name Chungee
> A favourite food of the natives - both raw & boiled
> Nullee Sṭ Range" [zzzsj]

John Lindsay Stewart reported in 1869 about a plant he called *Boucerosia aucheri*, but from present-day Pakistan - though that species is now regarded to be restricted to Arabia, See ***Desmidorchis aucheriana***. It is very likely that he meant *Apteranthes tuberculata*.

> "Its juicy stems, about 4 or 5 inches long, are in bunches somewhat resembling fingers (whence some of its names), and have a very bitter taste like karela - (see MOMORDICA). They are said to be sometimes cooked like it, but are generally eaten raw, being considered stomachic, carminative, and tonic." [zzzsk]

A specimen collected in 1892 from Cherat at 4,000 feet (1,220 metres) and deposited in the herbarium of Madras (Chennai) Museum had a note from General Sir Henry Collett:

> "This is sold in the bazaars of Peshawar—and eaten fried in ghee—the juice of the plant [which is very bitter—C.G. Hastings, District Superintendant of Police] having first been expressed." [zzztt]

Edible. Found in the lower tracts of the Himalayas. [zz173]

Wild and cultivated throughout Pakistan. Eaten raw or cooked as a vegetable. [zz232] Sold in markets as a vegetable in Pakistan. [zz240]

Pakistan, southern Balochistan, near Bella, eaten raw as a vegetable. [zzzcq] Pakistan, Balochistan, Kalat and Khuzdar regions. Cooked as a vegetable. [zzzua] Pakistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, available March to September, sold in markets throughout the province. Both food quality and use frequency are perceived by locals as 5/5. Stems either boiled in salty water or chopped and sprinkled with salt for 1-2 hours, rinsed with fresh water and then cooked. [zzzui] North-West Pakistan, Thakht-e-Sulaiman Hills. Stems collected by women, men and children from moist, shady places in March-April. Cut pieces heavily salted for half an hour. Washed with water, then fried in hot ghee with fried onions. Eaten with bread. [rrrck] Pakistan, Mohmand Agency, eaten as a vegetable, cooked with various condiments. [zzzwx] Pakistan, Balochistan. Cooked as vegetable (Reported as *Boucerosia aucheriana*). [zzzcp]

Pakistan, Kaniguram, Ormuri & Pathan peoples. Aerial parts eaten, "boiled after mixing with fried and seasoned onions". [rrrgk] Pakistan. Afghan refugees eat the aerial parts raw as a salad. Also fried in oil with meat and sometimes with other greens. Foraged from mountain pastures in Afghanistan and Pakistan, bought in markets in Pakistan. The most common plant species mentioned by Afghans whether living in or outside camps as well as local Pathans. One Afghan refugee living in a camp reported:

> “We don’t have time in February because we have only one month for the foraging of Pamanai (*Apteranthes tuberculata*) and we hike 3 h every day to reach the particular patches of the mountains where it is available and collect 5 to 6 kg each day which pays good money compared to any other occupation” [rrrgo]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, bitter. [zzzpv]

Pakistan, Balochistan, Kalat and Khuzdar regions, women cook the plant with gum from *Pistacia atlantica* ssp. *cabulica*, dried and powdered given vs. jaundice and gas trouble. Whole plant is dried and powdered, taken with water vs. jaundice, dysentery, stomach pain, constipation and hepatitis B & C. Fresh plant chewed vs. freckles, pimples and for blood purification. Used vs. diabetes and high blood pressure. [zzzua] Pakistan, Balochistan, astringent taste, eaten raw vs. all sorts of complaints (Reported as *Boucerosia aucheriana*). [zzzcp] Consumed as food, treats rheumatism, diabetes, leprosy, reduces fever [zz4a] and vs. intestinal worms and blood disease. [zz79] Pakistan. Reputed cure for diabetes and rheumatism. Pregnane steroid glycosides. [zz232]

Pakistan, Kaniguram, Pathan peoples. Used vs. diabetes. [rrrgk] Pakistan, Northern Areas, Gilgit, Haramosh and Bugrote Valleys: whole plant widely used vs. paralysis, joint pain and fever. [zzzrs] Pakistan, Afghan refugees. "Filtrate" (juice?) as anti-diabetic, vs. hypertension, flatulence and for blood purification. [rrrgo]

Pakistan, Sialkot province, whole plant cooling and vs. paralysis, joint pain, fever and blood diseases. [zzztb] Pakistan, Mohmand Agency. Used vs. obesity, urinary disorders and stomach problems. [zzzwx] Northern Pakistan, Makerwal and Gulla Khel, whole plant, pounded as tea vs. liver ailments, high blood pressure and diabetes [zzzub]
Pakistan, Sarawan, powdered plant in cold water drunk vs. fever. [zzzcq] Pakistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province. Stem fresh or cooked vs. diabetes, rheumatism, and joint pains. [zzzui] Iran, Hormozgan province, succulent stem fresh vs. parasitic diseases. [zzzta]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, fresh stem pieces eaten vs. diabetes, stomach ache, digestion disorders, appetite loss. Seed eaten for unspecified reason. [zzznu]

Manchester, UK, fresh vegetable, whole stems with some small roots. Not flowered so actual species not determined. Sold as "chonghah" (چونگاں. in Urdu?) from Pakistan. £5.50 per kilo. The grocer called it "the best vegetable in the world". He compared it favourably to another of his favourites, *karela,* the Bitter Gourd. The bitterness is desirable as a balance to the overconsumption of sweets. It is very medicinal, used for many complaints in Ayurveda including diabetes. Very popular with women. Recommended to be fried with tomato and other vegetables, served with potatoes. [zz183] Raw, it had a pleasing crisp moistness but was immediately very bitter though in a clean manner that could probably be tolerated when accustomed to it. I tried it gently fried for ten minutes, it was still very bitter but with liquoricy overtones. Not as bitter as *karela*. The bitterness stayed in the mouth for 15 minutes after finishing the small portion. The texture was pleasant, like a moist root vegetable rather than the usual stem vegetables that I had expected.[me]

***Araujia* spp. {Asclepiadeae – Oxypetalinae}**

Local Spanish: "Doca", used of all similar edible fruit of *Araujia* (previously *Morrenia*) and *Funastrum*. [zz26]

Araujia albens see ***Araujia sericifera***

***Araujia angustifolia* (Hook. & Arn.) Steud.**

Argentina, Chaco, East, Toba: "*k*oplakái",
"oplakái". [zzzpc]
Vilela: "soonók",
"soonók chinchinít" (= little soonók). [zzzpb]

Argentina, East Chaco, Toba, fruit eaten raw but preferred boiled or roasted. [zzzpc] Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted. [zzzpb] Gran Chaco - Eaten by Eastern Toba & Vilela peoples. Fruit eaten by Guaraní-Izoceño people. [fffaq]

***Araujia brachystephana* (Griseb.) Fontella & Goyder**

Reported as *Morrenia brachystephana.*

Argentina, San Luis: "tasi",
"doca". [zzzel]
Chaco, East, Toba: "taluái". [zzzpc]
Vilela: "soonók". [zzzpb]
Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní: "Supua koroi",
"Supua roki mi" (= small ***Araujia odorata***),
"Urumilla" (= small *Araujia odorata*). [zzzep]

Argentina. Young fruit eaten raw, roasted or made into sweets. [zzzjf] Argentina, East Chaco, Toba. Fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted, preferably when green. [zzzpc] Argentina, Chaco, Vilela. Fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted. [zzzpb] South America, Gran Chaco. Fruit eaten locally. [zz26]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní. Very young fruit (in April) eaten boiled or fried. Not edible raw. See also ***Funastrum clausum*** [zzzep] South America, Gran Chaco. Fruit eaten by Chorote, Guaraní-Izoceño, Eastern Toba, Vilela. [fffaq]

Argentina, root infusion drunk to restart milk flow even years after having children. [zzzjf] Argentina, San Luis, sold to increase the flow of milk and vs. tooth pain, warts. [zzzel] Latex and ashes of the whole plant applied to wounds and sores to form a scab. [zzzep]

Bolivia, Chaco, latex to glue paper. [zzzep] Argentina, root to curdle cow or goat milk. Silky filaments from fully ripe fruit used as tinder for starting fires. [zzzjg]

***Araujia herzogii* (Schltr.) Fontella & Goyder**

Reported as *Morrenia herzogii.*

South America, Gran Chaco, fruit eaten locally. [zz26]

Araujia hortorum see ***Araujia sericifera***

Araujia odorata **(Hook. & Arn.) Fontella & Goyder**

Guarani: "guaikuru rembi'u" (= food of the local Guaycuru people of Gran Chaco). [zz26]

Local Spanish:			"Paraguayita", [zz26]
			"Doca",
			"Tasi". [zz26, zzzel]
Bolivia,	Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní:		"Supua koroi",
			"Supua rokɨ",
			"Uruma". [zzzep]
	Chuquisaca, Huacareta:		"Supua". [zzzfp]
Paraguay, Chaco, Ayoreo:			"pongorapitá". [zzzjt]
Argentina,	Chorote,	Yójwaha:	"jwaalók",
		Yówujwa:	"jwáalok". [zzzrj]
	Chaco,	East, Toba:	"l(u)guarái". [zzzpc]
		Vilela:	"soonók". [zzzpb]

South Paraguay and North Argentina, Gran Chaco region. Also found in Bolivia, South Brazil, and Uruguay. This widespread and abundant liana figures is many local stories, myths and riddles and is regarded as very nutritious. The plant grows to 5 metres and contains abundant latex. Though considered a wild plant it is protected, encouraged and sometimes cultivated. In some areas the plant thrives through 6-8 months of drought every year. [zz26]

Leaf: Young leaves are eaten raw or boiled and oiled. Leaves, soft young stems, flowers and apical shoots often eaten together, sometimes dipped in a sauce of wild chili and salt. At the height of the dry season the older, thick stems may be peeled, boiled until soft and served in oil. Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní, leaves boiled, ground up and served cold with eggs. [zzzep] Argentina, Chorote, stems, boiled. Starchy inner part eaten seasoned with fish fats. [zzzrj]

Flower: Scented, eaten raw on their own or boiled and oiled. Flowers and young leaves may be mashed in a mortar and salted. [zz26] Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní, young flowers only become edible when boiled, served in soups and salads. [zzzep] Argentina, Chorote, leaves and flowers, raw and consumed as vegetables with salt and water. [zzzrj]

Fruit: Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted. [zzzpb] Very popular among settlers and the indigenous peoples. Often sold as a jam. The fruit is high in vitamin C (over 40mg/100g) and calcium. 10-14cm long, 4-9cm wide. Immature fruit eaten raw (while the seeds and cottonfluff is still tender and moist) or boiled. May be mashed with chili, salt and *Opuntia chakensis* flesh. Older fruit deseeded, roasted and dried for later use. Latex can be slightly irritating to the mouth if large quantities of raw fruit are eaten. [zz26] This is probably due to the presence of protein-hydrolysing enzymes common in the latex of Asclepiads, *Araujia odorata* latex has the peptidase morrenain o II. [zz51] Pineapple, papaya and fig contain similar enzymes (bromelain, papain and ficin, respectively) which can cause irritation, especially when the mouth is already chafed - due to digesting proteins exposed by the chafing. They can also be used for curdling milk or soya milk. [me] The latex of *Araujia odorata* is used for curdling milk. [zz26]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní, young fruit eaten boiled in April. The immature seeds from the young fruit are the most appreciated and are boiled or fried. [zzzep] Paraguayan Chaco, Ayoreo, young fruits cooked in ashes for 10-15 minutes, fleshy part eaten. [zzzjt]

Argentina, young fruit eaten raw, roasted or made into sweets. [zzzjf] Argentina, Chorote, fruits roasted with fish fats. Unripe fruits eaten raw. Unripe fruit ground with salt and water as an ingredient in a salad with other vegetables, fruit and roots and flavoured with salt, wild chili (*Capsicum chacoense*) and *Acmella oppositifolia* (a plant with a flavour quite like Szechuan pepper). [zzzrj] Argentina, East Chaco, Toba, fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted, preferably when green. Also crushed in a mortar. [zzzpc]

Gran Chaco - Flowers, fruit, leaves and stem eaten by Ayoreo, Chorote, Guaraní-Izoceño, Lengua-Maskoy, Maká, Pilagá, Western & Eastern Toba, Vilela and Wichi peoples. [fffaq]

Used medicinally vs. warts, toothache, snakebites and lack of milk. Can be poisonous to cattle. [zz26] Root soothing, anti-inflammatory and vs. lack of milk. [zzzec] Argentina, Córdoba, to eliminate warts and furuncles. [zzzef] Argentina, San Luis, sold to increase the flow of milk and vs. tooth pain, warts. [zzzel] Argentina, East Chaco, Toba, mothers drink a root decoction to stimulate milk. [zzzpc] Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, root decoction to stimulate milk. [zzzpb] Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní, latex vs. toothache. Infusion of the leaves vs. diarrhoea and dysentery in adults and children. Aerial parts soaked with oil or boiled with vaseline or fat applied vs. headache. [zzzep] Bolivia, Chuquisaca, Huacareta, "resin" applied vs. allergy. Infusion of branches vs. wounds. [zzzfp] Bolivian Andes, Apillampa, used as medicine. [zzzqj]

Bolivia, Chaco. latex to glue papers. [zzzep] Argentina, root to curdle cow or goat milk. Silky filaments from fully ripe fruit used as tinder for starting fires. The fruit exudes an aromatic resin. [zzzjg]

Araujia plumosa **Schltr.**

Argentina,	Chaco,	East, Toba:	"mel(e)g*r*añí",
			"mel(a)g*r*añí". [zzzpc]
		Vilela:	"soonók". [zzzpb]

Argentina, East Chaco, Toba, fruit eaten raw but preferred boiled or roasted. [zzzpc] Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted. [zzzpb] South America, Gran Chaco – Fruit eaten by Eastern Toba & Vilela peoples. [fffaq]

Araujia sericifera **Brot.**
Also reported as *Araujia hortorum.*

Argentina:	"taso". [zzzjg]		
	San Luis:	"tasi",	
		"doca". [zzzel]	
	Araucano-Pampas: "tasí kachú". [zzzpa]		
Paraguay:	"payaguá rembiú" (= food of the Payaguá tribe). [zzzjg]		
Brazil:	"paina do campo" (= country kapok),		
	"cipo sapo" (= toad vine). [zzzco]		
Catalan:	"miraguano" [zzzdb],		
	"miraguà fals",		
	"miraguà de jardí". [zzzde]		

Argentina, Payaguá tribe, fleshy part (mesocarp) of the fruit eaten after toasting. [zzzjg]

Southern Africa, veldt?, invasive non-native, unspecified part used as snack. [zzznw]

Argentina, San Luis, sold to increase the flow of milk. [zzzel] Argentina, Araucano-Pampas, parboiled fruit to stimulate milk production. [zzzpa]

Netherland Indies (Indonesia), rootbark used as emetic. [zz241]

Stems give a strong fibre suitable for textiles. [zz237, zzzjg] Brazil, Sao Paulo, "cotton" used as a substitute for kapok. [zzzco] Catalonia, Alt Empordà, fluff around seeds used for stuffing cushions and quilts. [zzzdb]

This was the only member of the *Araujia* genus I have been able to source in the UK as either seeds or live plants. I was little hesistant as there was only one report from its huge range. I was very pleasantly surprised. One fruit harvested on the 28th of September 2025, from a plant I had for 3 years in a 30cm square pot. 5cm long, 5.4cm if you include the tiny beak where the flower was. 3.5cm wide, 25.5g weight. I tasted a tiny bit raw, not horrible but not interesting either. I also tasted a little bit of the raw latex which was a bit gummy on the lips but had a pleasant taste rather like fresh cashew nut milk.

Sliced into pieces, rubbed with a little cold-pressed sesame oil (not the toasted, pre-fried stuff). Done in a halogen oven at 175°C for a shade over 10 minutes. This transformed it into one of the most delightful gourmet vegetables I have tasted. Great without salt but after I had tasted a few pieces on their own, I sprinkled a tiny amount of salt and they became fabulous. It had a sweetness that was not sugary nor overbearing, just right for a vegetable. No distinct flavours, just a mild, lovely savoury taste. Though moist and tender like a roasted baby courgette the pieces of shell had a distinct perfect chip (in the British sense) flavour. The separate piece from the centre had a perfect roast crispy shell on a delightful mixture of tender, toothsome textures. The fluff at this stage looks silky but it still melts in the mouth. The second fruit ripened a week later and was about the same size. I cooked that for 20 minutes at 150°C in the halogen oven and it was just as good though not as moist. I really would say this would not be out of place in a gourmet restaurant alongside steamed flower buds of sweet *Asclepias syriaca*. As exquisite as any vegetable. [me, 2025]

***Araujia stormiana* Morong**
Also reported as *Morrenia schulziana* and *Morrenia stormiana.*

Paraguay Chaco, Ayoreo:		"pongorá". [zzzjt]	
Argentina,	Chaco,	East, Toba:	"taluái". [zzzpc]
		Vilela:	"soonók". [zzzpb]

South America, Gran Chaco, fruit eaten locally. [zz26] Argentina, East Chaco, Toba, fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted, preferably when green. [zzzpc] Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, fruit eaten. [zzzpb] South America, Gran Chaco - Fruit eaten by Ayoreo, Chorote, Maká, Western & Eastern Toba, Vilela and Wichi peoples. [fffaq] Paraguayan Chaco, Ayoreo, fruit regarded as tasteless. [zzzjt]

***Araujia stuckertiana* subsp. *grandiflora* (Malme) Fontella & Goyder**
Reported as *Morrenia grandiflora* and *Morrenia stuckertiana* subsp. *grandiflora*

South America, Gran Chaco, fruit eaten locally. [zz26] South America, Gran Chaco - Fruit eaten by Wichi people. [fffaq]

***Araujia variegata* (Griseb.) Fontella & Goyder**
Reported as *Morrenia connectens* and *Morrenia variegata.*

Argentina,	Chaco,	East, Toba:	"*k*oplakái", "oplakái". [zzzpc]
		Vilela:	"soonók". [zzzpb]

Argentina, East Chaco, Toba, fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted, preferably when green. [zzzpc] Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted. [zzzpb]

South America, Gran Chaco, flowers, young stalks, leaves, fruit, young seeds and old stems eaten as with ***Araujia odorata***, but *Araujia variegata* is both rare and of limited distribution. [zz26] South America, Gran Chaco - Flowers, fruit, leaves and stem eaten by Chorote, Lengua-Maskoy, Maká, Western & Eastern Toba, Vilela and Wichi peoples. [fffaq]

***Asclepias* spp. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**

In 1830, it was reported that all American (United States) species produced a fine silky and glossy down in the pods. Excellent for beds and pillows as it is elastic. Made into light and soft hats. Staple too short for it to be woven alone but was mixed with flax, cotton, wool and raw silk. Down and stalk fibre both excellent for paper. [rrrbl] During the Second World War it was claimed that a rubber extracted from Asclepias milkweeds could be produced by fermentation with bacteria. The remarkable product was fire-resistant and petrol-resistant but did not replace foreign sources within two years as the author expected. [zz1a] 150,000 pounds of the seed-floss were collected for life-jackets for the US Navy in 1944 as kapok was difficult to obtain. [zzzdv] The floss from around the seeds has been used to make fake fur by attaching one end to a woven fabric making "a beautiful imitation of the finest and softest fur skins". [zzzfh]

North America, Californian Chumash, Barbareño & Ineseño: " 'okhponush ", stem fibres used for cordage and clothing. Sap chewed as gum. [zzzko]

"In many of the Rio Grande Pueblos the roots as well as the unripe pods of various Asclepias species are eaten raw; this is done rather generally at Jemez."

Navajo, all species called "Tc'il'apé" (= plant-milk). Plants can be eaten raw or boiled. Powdered dried leaves stirred into a bowl of water vs. stomach troubles. [zzzlq]

North America, the Tewa ate some supposedly toxic roots of *Asclepias* species, though they carefully avoided ***Asclepias subverticillata***.[rrrcw]

WARNING: Please note that in many cases the preparation of *Asclepias* species may not have been included in the reports of edibility. Preparation techniques may reduce toxicity. The plants are often boiled and the water discarded, sometimes several times. [rrrcw]

***Asclepias adscendens* (Schltr.) Schltr.**

Swaziland, edible leaves and fruit. [zz144]

Asclepias affinis De Wild. see ***Asclepias buchwaldii***
Asclepias affinis (Schltr.) Schltr. see ***Asclepias albens***

***Asclepias albens* (E.Mey.) Schltr.**
Was *Asclepias affinis* (Schltr.) Schltr., see also ***Asclepias buchwaldii***.

South Africa, isiZulu: "umadoye",
"idoyi",
"ishongwe". [zzzpj]
South Africa, Venda: "Tshalale". [zzzpj]

Southern Africa, isiZulu & Venda. Young leaves eaten as spinach or "imifino". [zzzpj]
Southern Africa, stem, leaf and flower - snacks and vegetables. [zzznw] Swaziland. Edible leaves cooked as spinach. [zz144]

Swaziland. Roots vs. bilharzia, pimples, headaches, and wounds. [zz144]

***Asclepias albicans* S.Watson**
Mexico: "yamate",
"mata candelilla",
"hierbajo lechoso". [zzzem]
Sonora, Seri: "najca'azjc" (see also ***Asclepias subulata***). [zzzem]

Mexico, Sonora, Seri, shampoo made from cooked roots in water vs. headache. Wash then brush hair to cure headache. Tea of roots with roots of *Encelia farinosa* and *Euphorbia* species held in mouth vs. toothache or drunk vs. heart pain. [zzzao]

Necklaces made from the stem fibre. [zzzem]

***Asclepias amplexicaulis* Sm.**
Reported in 1830 as *Asclepias obtusifolia* Michx., not to be confused with the later *Asclepias obtusifolia* Kunze see ***Asclepias syriaca.***

USA, "Oregon and Western tribes": "Nepesha". [rrrbk]

USA, "Oregon and Western tribes". Roots as emetics and vs. dropsy, asthma, dysentery. ***Asclepias incarnata*** and ***Asclepias syriaca*** used in the same way. [rrrbk]

Asclepias appendiculata see ***Pachycarpus appendiculatus***

***Asclepias asperula* ssp. *capricornu* (Woodson) Woodson**
Sometimes reported as *Asclepiodora decumbens* or *Asclepias decumbens* (Nutt.) K.Schum.

North America, Gosiute: ?"pi'wa-nûp". [zzzlh]
Navajo: "Tjatíltee'íh" (= antelope horn). [zzzlq]
"Spider Antelope Horn", [zz237]
"Spider Milkweed". [zzzlq]

North America, Utah and Nevada, Gosiute, latex used as a chewing gum but the most sought-after was the latex of *Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus* (Asteraceae). [zzzlh]

North America, Kayenta Navajo, plant as snuff vs. catarrh. North America, Ramah Navajo, plant as ceremonial emetic. Plant infusion taken or as lotion vs. mad dog or mad coyote bite, in both man and animals. [iiilg]

Navajo, dried plant kept as "medicine stick", powdered and mixed with water when required as one of the many plant ingredients of "life medicine", a universal remedy. [zzzlq]

***Asclepias aurea* (Schltr.) Schltr.**
Lesotho: "mohlatsisa" (= "he who causes vomiting", emetic). [zzznz, zzzrr]

Swaziland. Edible rootstock and leaves. [zz144]

Swaziland, emetic. [zz144] Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "Used as an emetic." [zzznz] Emetic. [zz241] Lesotho: leaves chewed raw or infused as emetic for constipation. [zzzrr]

Asclepias auriculata Holz. see ***Asclepias engelmanniana***

***Asclepias auriculata* Kunth**

Mexico, Michoacán, municipio de Uruapan. Appreciated for medicinal uses. [rrrep]

***Asclepias barjoniifolia* E.Fourn.**

Bolivian Andes, Apillampa, used as medicine. [zzzqj]

***Asclepias bicuspis* N.E.Br.**

Southern Africa, unknown part as snack. [zzznw]

***Asclepias boliviensis* E. Fourn.**
Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní:
"Kurupikaɨ mi" (= little *Sapium haematospermum,* Euphorbiaceae). [zzzep]
"leche leche" (= milk milk). [zzzep]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní. Well-mashed leaves applied to external parasites on animals. [zzzep]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní. Used as ***Asclepias curassavica***. Cures "bicho" (a type of curse), the paye ("shaman") burns the plant, the patient inhales the smoke. The latex may be put in the nostrils. [zzzep]

Asclepias brachystephana **Engelm. ex Torr.**
Mexico: "lechosillo",
"cori",
"kacosi". [zzzem]
Chihuahua: "hierba lechosa" (= milky herb). [zzzej]

Mexico. Leaves eaten as vegetable. [zzzem]

Mexico, Chihuahua. Toxic, medicinal. [zzzej]

Asclepias brevicuspis **(E.Mey.) Schltr.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

Asclepias buchwaldii **(Schltr. & K.Schum.) De Wild.**
Reported as *Trachycalymma buchwaldii*. Formerly *Asclepias affinis* De Wild., see also ***Asclepias albens*** with which it may be confused in reports.

Swaziland: "umdzayi". [zz144] See also ***Xysmalobium acerateoides***.

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

Asclepias californica **Greene**
For a diferent species that was reported as *Asclepias californica* due to confusion with an old, invalid synonym for the Californian plant that looked exactly the same, except for the authors – see ***Gomphocarpus tomentosus***.

North America, California Kawaiisu. Leaves roasted under hot ashes and chewed. Milky juice boiled to produce a chewing gum. [iiilg]

North America, California Kawaiisu, dried, powdered plant applied vs. spider-bites. [iiilg]

Asclepias campestris see ***Asclepias mellodora***

Asclepias compressidens **(N.E.Br.) Nicholas**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

Asclepias contrayerba see ***Asclepias jaliscana***

Asclepias cordifolia **(Benth.) Jeps.**
North America, California, Karok: "ḾXT-XM-ƆÚX-V̲U". [zzzli]

North America, California, Karok, latex boiled and chewed. North America, California, Yurok, dried latex chewed by older folk at their leisure. [zzzli]

North California, Miwok, root as medicine. [iiilg]

***Asclepias crassinervis* N.E.Br.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

***Asclepias crispa* P.J.Bergius**
S. Africa, Afrikaans "Bitterwortel" (= bitter root). [zzzbn]

Root diuretic, decoction or infusion vs. dropsy. Tincture vs. colic. Emetic, purgative. Plant toxic to sheep and guinea pigs. [zz241] Used as ***Xysmalobium undulatum***. [zzzbn]

***Asclepias crispa* var. *plana* N.E. Br.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

Roots diuretic and purgative. [zz144]

***Asclepias cryptoceras* S.Watson**
North America, Nevada, Paiute: "hewovey",
"wa-na". [zzzlj]

North America, Nevada, Paiute, liquid from boiled root applied vs. headaches. Latex vs. ringworm. [zzzlj] Paiute, dried powdered root as poultice vs. sores. Shoshoni, plant juice vs. sore back in horses. [iiilg]

***Asclepias cucullata* (Schltr.) Schltr.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

***Asclepias cultriformis* Harv. ex Schltr.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

Smoked wood bundles vs. lightning. [zz144] South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

***Asclepias curassavica* L.**
Mexico, "flor de tigre" (= tiger flower),
"veneno rojo" (= red poison),
"quiebra-muela" (= mill- or molar-breaker),
"pool kutz" and many more. [zzzem]
"leche de sapo" (= toad milk),
Veracruz, Papantla: "hierva del sapo" (= toad herb). [zzzji]
Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley: "Flor de tigre" (= tiger flower). [zzzkf]
Querétaro: "hierba del niño" (= child herb or herb of The Child). [zzzei]

Mexico, Hidalgo: "hierba de la rabia" (= rabies herb),
"ponchilhuits",
"quiebramuelas",
"santa Juana",
"santa rosa",
"tendoni",
"venenillo" (= little poison). [rrrep]
Nicaragua, Creole English: "Yellow Head". [zzzjj]
Atlantic coast: "sore mouth bush",
Creole: "biborella". [zzzkg]
French Guiana, Palikur: "iutak βey" (= eye medicine).
Montserrat: "wild ipecacuanha", "redhead", "indian root". [zzzkb]
Trinidad, French Creole, Venezuelan: "orosul". [zzzld]
Argentina, Misiones, Guarani: mbói ka'a (serpent herb). [zzzqf]
San Luis: "bandera española" (= Spanish flag). [zzzel]
Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní: "Kurupikaɨ mi" (= little *Sapium haematospermum*),
"leche leche" (= milk milk). [zzzep]
Portuguese: "oficial-de-sala",
"suspiro". [zzzes]
Malagasy: "fanoromena" (= red *Gomphocarpus fruticosus*). [zzzrd]
"kitseakanalika" (= dog *Mikania scandens*). [zzzrd]
"treniombilahy" (= bull roar). [zzzrd]
China: "lian sheng gui zi hua" [zzzat],
馬利筋 "ma li jin" [zz141] (= horse benefit tendons),
Hainan Island: "zuò tōu nāng". [zz250]
Laos: "Mak kha kay". [zzzcv]
Viet (Annamese): "Bang lay". [zzzcv]
Spain: "calentura" (= fever),
"flor de bandera española" (= Spanish flag flower),
"flor de la seda" (= silk flower),
"viborán". [zzzde]
India, Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore district, Pillur Beat: "Neerpoo". [zzzun]
"Bloodflower". [zz237]
"Wild Ipecac". [zz237]

Mexico, Northeast. Aerial parts edible. [rrreo]

Widely introduced as an ornamental and used as a folk medicine as purgative and sudorific, vs. dysentery, piles. Root emetic and used to adulterate or fake true Ipecac. Expressed juice of leaves vs. worms. [zz237] Stem fibre suitable for spinning after chemical treatment and mixing with cotton. Honey made from the flowers is rather bitter, dark and thick. [zzzbr] Emetic and purgative used vs. gleets (morbid discharge) and fluor albus (leucorrhoea). [zzzct]

Mexico, Veracruz, Papantla, fresh leaf decoction vs. cancer and kidney problems. Dry leaf infusion vs. diabetes. [zzzji] Mexico, Querétaro, a drop of "milk" in each nostril of a child vs. constipated catarrh. Too much can burn. [zzzei] Mexico, used as purgative, emetic, sneeze-inducer, pain-killer, used vs. worms, snakes, pimples. warts, wounds, cancer, oedema, piles, inflammations, toothache, sight, bile, kidney and urinary problems, rabies, scabies and impetigo. [zzzem] Mexico, Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley, medicinal, poison. [zzzkf] Mexico, Puebla, Agua de la Luna, poison for humans and animals. [zzzqe]

Mexico, Chiapas, Morelos, Tabasco & Veracruz. Latex applied vs. painful teeth. Oaxaca leaves chewed or leaf applied vs. painful teeth. Oaxaca. Boiled twigs as enema vs. haemorrhoids. Latex vs. stomach parasites. Mexico, Hidalgo. Latex vs. warts and boils on the face. Latex vs. rabies. Michoacán. Latex vs. warts. Hidalgo and Oaxaca. Steam from boiling vs. haemorrhoids and foot fungus. Aguascalientes. Cooked leaves and roots vs. stomach ache and the evil eye. Latex, crushed stems, fruit applied vs. warts, boils, ringworm and foot fungus. Veracruz. latex vs. warts and verrucas. Infusion vs. skin infections. Roasted leaves vs. colds and congestion. Leaf infusion vs. chilblains. Puebla. Latex vs. boils, to lessen blemishes on the face. Leaves and flowers vs. haemorrhages. Leaf infusion vs. haemorrhoids and stomach aches. Chiapas. Crushed leaves as poultice vs. boils and oedema. Latex to heal wounds and vs. scabies. Yuacatán. Valued as medicinal. [rrrep] Mexico, Guerrero. Stems, leaves, flowers and latex, medicinal. [rrrfd]

Costa Rica, Guaymí, tea from boiled roots orally vs. fevers. [zzzkq] Nicaragua, Rama midwives use leaf orally or poultice topically vs. headache, morning sickness, abdominal and back pain, uterine haemorrhage, postpartum abdominal pain, fever and to promote conception. [zzzjj] Nicaragua, Atlantic coast, leaf vs. asthma and "pujo". [zzzkg] Nicaragua, as purge. [zzzur]

Trinidad, leaf poultice applied vs. boils, carbuncles, gum boils. [zzzld] Montserrat, medicinal. [zzzkb]

Colombia, to provoke abortion. Amazon, Ka'apor people, latex applied vs. skin eruptions. Leaf paste applied vs. snakebite from pit vipers of the genus *Bothrops*. Active vs. coagulation effects of *Bothrops diporus* venom, but less so than ***Asclepias mellodora***. [zzzur] French Guiana, Palikur, macerated roots or decoction of aerial parts vs. eye infections. Créole, latex toxic and applied vs. toothache. [zzzes]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní, used as ***Asclepias boliviensis***. To cure a "bicho" (a type of curse), the paye ("shaman") burns the plant, the patient inhales the smoke. The latex may be put in the nostrils. Well-mashed leaves applied to external parasites on animals. [zzzep] Peru, Callejon de Huaylas, sold in markets as a medicinal herb. Whole plant without root vs. nasopharyngeal cancer, tumors and warts. [zzzus] Amazon, Tikuna, latex applied vs. aching molars. Siona-Secoya, leaf latex with water vs. intestinal parasites in children. Ketchwa, esteemed vermifuge. [zzzbm]
Argentina, root emetic and as substitute for ipecac. Stems, leaves and flowers vs. gonorrhoea. White flowers and powdered dry plant as styptic in fresh wounds. [zzzjg] Argentina, San Luis, sold as emetic, purgative, haemostatic and vs. excessive mucus. [zzzel] Argentina, Misiones, Guarani, used in magic. [zzzqf]

Madagascar, latex applied repeatedly vs. warts. Used as a dressing vs. injuries in animals and humans. [zzzrd]

China, herb vs. tonsillitis, pneumonia, bronchitis, urinary tract infection, flooding and spotting with vaginal discharge, bleeding from wounds. [zzzat] China, root extract emetic, laxative. Leaf juice vs. intestinal worms and to hasten sweating in fevers. Flower juice to stop bleeding. Chinese villagers brush dogs with twigs vs. fleas. [zz141] Hainan Island, massage with toasted leaf vs. rheumatoid arthritis. [zz250] Burma, China, Indo-China, Philippines, Guam, root powder or decoction emetic and purgative, astringent in dysentery. Pounded leaves and flowers externally vs. wounds and sores. Decoction of flowers styptic. Malay Peninsula, poultice of crushed flowers in cold water vs. headache. [zz177] Philippines, Bontoc, leaves crushed and applied to wounds. [zzzki]

India, Meghalaya: root is emetic and purgative, used vs. sores, ulcers and vermin. [zzzxk] India, Tamil Nadu, Tiruchirappalli District, Pachamalai Hills, leaf vs, cancer. [zzzuk] Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore district, Karamadai range, Pillur Beat, root and whole plant as a paste vs. pain, ringworm (externally, presumably?). [zzzun]

Mexico, Hidalgo. Latex to eliminate maggots in the wounds of dogs. Latex to kill nuisance dogs. Puebla. Latex as rat poison. Toxic to livestock. [rrrep]

Mexico, Yuacatán. A toy for children? [rrrep] Spain, cultivated as ornamental and for fibre. [zzzde] 0.55% hydrocarbon/rubber by fresh weight. [zzzar]

Asclepias debilis see ***Asclepias perennis***

Asclepias decipiens see ***Gomphocarpus fruticosus* subsp. *decipiens***

Asclepias decumbens L. see ***Asclepias tuberosa***
Asclepias decumbens (Nutt.) K.Schum. see ***Asclepias asperula subsp. capricornu***

***Asclepias densiflora* N.E.Br.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

***Asclepias depressa* (Schltr.) Schltr.**
Reported as *Asclepias multicaulis* (E.Mey.) Schltr.

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Lenkiling". [zzznz]
"Lekhoaphèla" (= "he who draws his legs together when sitting on the ground", from the shape of the plant). [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The plant is eaten freely, either cooked or raw." [zzznz] Southern Africa, whole plant, stem, leaf, flower and fruit as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

***Asclepias dissona* N.E.Br.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

***Asclepias eminens* (Harv.) Schltr.**
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Montsuku". [zzznz]
"Motsōkō". [zzznz]
"Montsōkō". [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The whole plant is eaten raw." [zzznz] Basutoland, "bulb" reported as edible. Whole plant eaten raw. [zz241] Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144] Southern Africa, whole plant as snack and vegetable. Undetermined part for meal. [zzznw]

***Asclepias engelmanniana* Woodson**

North America, Navajo, Kayenta, plant vs. nasal congestion from a cold. [iiilg]

***Asclepias eriocarpa* Benth.**
California, Costanoan: "Inmortal". [zzzjk]
Luiseño: "Tokmut". [zzzll]
Mendocino County, Concow: "bō'-kō". [zzzlm]
English: "Woolypod Milkweed" [zz237]

California, Luiseño, sap boiled until coagulated and used for chewing gum. Much esteemed but not as long-lasting as that from scale insect-infested *Quercus engelmannii* (Fagaceae). [zzzll] California, Karuk, latex heated and mixed with salmon fat or deer grease for use as chewing gum. [iiilg] See also ***Asclepias fascicularis***.

California, Mendocino County, Concow, sweet, milky juice recognised as excellent healing lotion vs. cuts and sores and for killing warts. The latex was used to mark out the patterns of tattoos on the skin and to hold the soot tattoo ink while it was being pricked into the skin. [zzzlm]

California, Costanoan, smoke from burning dried plants inhaled vs. asthma. Dried root powder inhaled to provoke sneezing. Latex to reduce corns. Decoction and salve vs. colds. [zzzjk]

California, Luiseño, string fibre from stem. Fibres made into net aprons for women called "pishkwut". Fibre not as durable as that from *Apocynum cannabinum*. Both species were used to produce twine to make baskets for seed collecting, bowstrings, traps for hunting, bets, etc. Living stems are soaked in boiling water to separate the fibre. Late in the season the fibres can be separated by simple soaking. [zzzll] California, Kashaya Pomo, fibres used to make skirts for women and two-ply string. [iiilg] California, Mendocino County, Concow, fibre used for string and rope. [zzzlm]

California, Mendocino County, poisonous to sheep, can kill within half an hour. Juice irritating to people with tender skins. [zzzlm]

***Asclepias erosa* Torr.**
Southern California, Coahuilla: "ke-at". [zzzln]

Southern California, Coahuilla, coagulated latex as chewing gum. The gum is called "chil-se". Another unidentified species with red-flowers called "wich-sal" also used. [zzzln] Southern California, Tübatulabal, coagulated latex as chewing gum. [iiilg]

***Asclepias euphorbiifolia* Engelm. ex A.Gray**
Mexico, Tarahumara: "chonki". [zzzem]

Mexico, boiled leaves eaten. [zzzem]

***Asclepias exaltata* L.**
Also reported as *Asclepias phytolaccoides.*

North America, Hocąk (Winnebago): "Mąhịc". [zzzjw]
Missouri River, Omaha-Ponca: "waḣta-ska" (= white ***Asclepias syriaca***). [zzzlo]

North America, Hocąk (Winnebago), tiny piece of root boiled to increase milk flow. [zzzjw]
Missouri River, Omaha-Ponca, root eaten raw vs. stomach trouble. [zzzlo]

USA. Plant for yellow-green dye. Before 1830, pod silk used to make silk gloves. [rrrbk]

***Asclepias expansa* (E.Mey.) Schltr.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

***Asclepias fallax* (Schltr.) Schltr.**

Swaziland, well-cooked leaves edible. [zz144, zzznw]

***Asclepias fascicularis* Decne.**
California, Costanoan: "Jumete". [zzzjk]
Mendocino County, Yokia: "Chä-wâ'-kot-sâ". [zzzlm]
Owens Valley Paiute: "Wiütava". [zzzlp]

California, Owens Valley Paiute, occasionally eaten. [zzzlp]

California, Mendocino County, Yokia, young blossoms occasionally eaten as the Yokia eat clover blossoms, fresh from the plant. The author, Victor King Chesnut, was surprised as

> "the taste was found to be really pleasant, being rather sweet and somewhat spicy."

Chesnut recommended caution because of the poisonous nature of many of the family. [zzzlm] Reported as ***Asclepias mexicana***, for which it was often mistaken. *Asclepias mexicana* is now considered to only reach as far north as Baja California. This may explain why Chesnut reported that the plant in the South was poisonous to sheep.
California, Miwok, boiled greens as vegetable and to thicken manzanita cider. [iiilg]
California, Mendocino County, Yokia Natives ate the young flower raw but only in small quantities. California, latex, source of chewing gum. Heated slightly to coagulate and mixed with salmon or deer fat. [zzzbl] (Though see the entry for ***Asclepias eriocarpa*** for possible origins for this last use. *Asclepias eriocarpa* would be more difficult to confuse with *Asclepias fascicularis* and *Asclepias mexicana*.)

California native, fresh leaves as poultice vs. snakebite. [iiilg]

Southern California, Coahuilla, latex used as glue. [zzzln] California, Costanoan, stem fibre used for cordage. [zzzjk] California, Western Mono, used to make carrying nets along with a species of *Gomphocarpus*. [zzzlp] North America, California Kawaiisu, principal source of cordage. [iiilg]

Asclepias flexuosa **(E.Mey. ex Decne.) Schltr**.

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

Asclepias fruticosa see ***Gomphocarpus fruticosus***

Asclepias fulva **N.E.Br.**
Reported as *Asclepias dregeana.*

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144]

Asclepias galioides see ***Asclepias verticillata***

Asclepias gibba **(E.Mey.) Schltr.**

Southern Africa, leaf as snack and vegetable, flower as snack. [zzznw] Swaziland. Roots, leaves and flowers edible. [zz144] Southern Sotho. eaten, unspecified. [zz241]

Swaziland, used vs. snakebite. [zz144] Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Snakebite".[zzziz]

Asclepias glaucescens **Kunth**
Mexico: "lechetresma". [zzzdv]
"oreja de liebre". [zzzdv][rrrfd]
Guatemala and El Salvador: "capuyo leche",
“polín",
"jicaca". [zzzdv]
El Salvador: "mata coyote". [zzzdv]
Mexico, Guerrero: "Chivita". [rrrfd]
Nahuatl: "pipitzomeh".
Tarahumara: "cori", "kaxorosi". [zzzem]
Popoluca: "tyuuxi" [zzzem, zzzhb]

Mexico, boiled leaves eaten. [zzzem]

Mexico, Guerrero. Leaf, seed. Medicinal, food. [rrrfd] Reputed poisonous. Used vs. colic and boils. [zzzdv] Mexico. Latex or macerated leaves vs. infected wounds, pimples and warts. Tea of boiled roots vs. stomach pain. A handful of leaves wrapped in a maize husk, heated and applied to a painful groin. [zzzem] Mexico, Popoluca, macerated root drunk vs. stomachache. [zzzhb] Mexico, Sierra de Huautla Biosphere Reserve, latex medicinal. [zzzuv]

Asclepias hallii **A.Gray**
Navajo: "T'óopitc'ʃ' iłtc'íh" (= negative toward it hurt). [zzzlq]

Navajo. Plant as tonic after childbirth. [zzzlq] Kayenta Navajo. Poisonous to livestock. [iiilg]

Asclepias humilis **(E.Mey.) Schltr.**
Lesotho: "lehlomane". [zzzrr]

Southern Africa. Food? Part and use undetermined. [zzznw][rrrcs]

Lesotho: root decoction mixed with *Gunnera perpensa* and *Scabiosa columbaria* taken orally to regulate menstrual cycle. [zzzrq] Weak leaf tea for diarrhoea in children and animals. [zzzrr]

Asclepias hypoleuca **(A. Gray) Woodson**
Mexico: Tepehuan: "suimaci nanaak". [zzzem]
"talayote". [zzzem]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, leaves and whole plant purgative and vs. indigestion. [zzzem]

Asclepias incarnata **L.**
Chippewa: "bû'giso'wĭn" (= swimming, also for mugwort & Joe Pye Weed). [zzzgc]
"Oregon and Western tribes": "Nepesha". [rrrbk]
English: "Swamp Milkweed". [zz237]

Buds eaten in soups and with deer by Menominee. [zz237]

Root and rhizome cathartic, emetic. Used vs. asthmatic, catarrhal and rheumatic ailments, vs. worms and as stomachic and diuretic. [zz237] USA, "Oregon and Western tribes". Roots as emetics and vs. dropsy, asthma, dysentery. ***Asclepias amplexicaulis*** and ***Asclepias syriaca*** used in the same way. [rrrbk]

North America, Chippewa, one whole root steeped in a quart of hot water used as medicinal baths for children. Also good for sick or tired adults. Soak the feet in it and lie down. North America, Whitefolk, root alterative, anthelmintic, cathartic and emetic. [zzzgc]

Source of "Ozone Fibre". [zz237] Flowering in August, the fibre develops when the plant is mature, as late as September. Soft and silky, equal to ramie fibre in fineness and value. [zzzco]

Asclepias involucrata **Engelm. ex Torr.**
New Mexico, Acoma or Laguna peoples: "Haapa". [rrrcx]
"Dwarf Milkweed". [zz237]

Latex as chewing gum for Hopi. [zz237]

New Mexico, Acoma or Laguna peoples. Tea of plant as stomach medicine. [rrrcx]

***Asclepias jaliscana* B.L.Rob.**
Often reported as *Asclepias contrayerba*.

Mexico: "contrahierba", [zzzem]
"contrayerba", [zzzdv]
"lechetresno". [zzzdv]
"quiebramuela",
"hierba del inmortal",
"choriki",
"escoradilla". [zzzem]
Michoacán, Purépecha: "atusivats". [zzzem]
Chiapas, Tzeltal: "polpoc". [zzzem]
El Salvador: "ishcaco". [zzzdv]
Guatemala: "sicaquina",
"jicaca",
"jicaquina". [zzzdv]
"Contrayerba de Julimes". [zzzeo]

Mexico, leaves eaten as vegetable. [zzzem]

Between 1788 and 1804 Martin Sessé and José Mariano Mociño collected plants that would later be described in *Flora Mexicana* [zzzme] and *Plantae Novae Hispaniae* [zzzmf].

I am not sure of the exact translation of this entry in the *Flora Mexicana*, but I think it means the plant is regarded as completely interchangeable with the contrayerba used by Mexican druggists and the powdered root was used vs. nasal and stomach problems. In the original Latin:

> “Indigenæ *contrayerbam* uocant, estque omnino similis illæ quæ â Pharmacopolis Mexicanis pro contrayerba prestantiore de Iulimes dicta expenditur.
> Propietas. Radix in puluerem reducta anthirrina est et stomachali.” [zzzme]

Equal or better than the usual Contrayerba supplied to the pharmaceutical market in the Americas and Europe which came from *Dorstenia contrajerva* of the plant family Moraceae. According to almost all Mexican doctors in 1832. [zzzeo]

Latex vs. pimples. Cooked root for a purgative. Macerated root for children's baths, vs. curses and lovesickness. [zzzem] Guatemala, to induce sneezing vs. colds. [zzzdv]

***Asclepias lanceolata* Walter**
Reported as *Asclepias serpentaria.*

In 1817 it was reported that: "The Indians have communicated to the creoles of Louisiana the knowledge of employing it against the bite of venomous snakes." [rrrbk]

***Asclepias latifolia* (Torr.) Raf.**
Mexico, Chihuahua: "hierba del burro" (= donkey herb). [zzzej]

Mexico, Chihuahua, toxic, medicinal. [zzzej]

Asclepias linaria **Cav.**

Mexico: "Algodoncillo" (little cotton plant),
"Hierba de la Punzada",
"Mapipitza",
"Plumerillo" (= little feather duster),
"Romerillo" (= little rosemary),
"Solimán",
"Teperomero",
"Tlalayote",
"Torbisco" (used in Spain for the purgative *Daphne gnidium* L.),
"Venenillo" (= little or darling poison), [zzzeb]
"lechetresna",
"yerba de cuervo" (= crow herb). [zzzdv]
"talayote de coyote". [zzzem]

Aguascalientes: “hierba del pino”.
“toro visco”. [rrrep]

Hidalgo. "Flor de San Pedro",
"guajito",
"mbangaronero",
"romerillo",
"romero cimarrón",
"tsubá",
"venenillo",
"yolochichi". [rrrep]

Michoacán: “cinco negrito”.
“pinillo”. [rrrep]

Sonora: "hierba de cuerco". [rrrep]

Purepecha: "atusihuats".

Tepehuan: "ali okago". [zzzem]

Valle de Tehuacán-Cuicatlán: "Romero de monte" (= mountain rosemary). [zzzeg]

Mexico, Aguascalientes. Boiled leaves and roots vs. stomach ache, rheumatism and the evil eye. Crushed stems and fruits (latex) vs. warts, foot fungus and boils. Ground leaves vs. foot fungus. Guanajuato. Plant vs. eye irritation. Hidalgo. Latex applied vs. warts, toothache and haemorrhoids. Mexico State. Crushed plant vs. rheumatism. Latex vs. warts and calluses. Michoacán. Latex vs. warts and remove thorns. Querétaro. Poultice of plant vs. toothache and earache. Leaf infusion vs. stomach ailments. Latex vs. warts and and verrucas and to form a healthy scar from infected wounds. [rrrep] Mexico, juice drastic purgative, but dangerous. Durango, leaves applied to temples vs. headache. [zzzeb] Michoacán, used vs. warts. [zzzee] Mexico, Puebla, Valle de Tehuacán-Cuicatlán, sold in markets. Aerial parts, boiled in water for baths for women in labour. Tea drunk vs. colic, "fright" (espanto). [zzzeg] Mexico, Tlaxcala, San Juan Quetzalcoapan, medicinal. [zzzek] Mexico, latex vs. wounds (cut feet) and warts. Leaves as purgative and vs. headaches. Whole plant mashed vs. rheumatism. [zzzem]

Mexico State. Seeds (seed fluff?) used for handicrafts. [rrrep]

Asclepias lynchiana **Fishbein**

Mexico: "hoja de liebre" (= hare leaf). [zzzem]

Mexico, cooked leaves to sterilise. Latex vs. pimples. [zzzem]

***Asclepias macropus* (Schltr.) Schltr.**

Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

***Asclepias meliodora* (Schltr.) Schltr.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

***Asclepias mellodora* A.St.-Hil.**

Argentina, Chorote, iyojwá'ja and iyowújwa: "jlétsi-po' ". [zzzdf]
San Luis: "Yerba de la vida" (= herb of life),
"Quiebrarado",
"Quiebrarao",
"Quiebra arado blanco" (= white plough-breaker). [zzzel]
Corrientes: "yerba de la víbora" (= viper herb), [zzzur, zzzjg]
"mboycaá". [zzzur]

Argentina, San Luis, sold as emetic. Also reported as *Asclepias campestris* Decne. [zzzel] Northeast Argentina, antispasmodic vs. stomachache. Ashes of aerial parts vs. wounds. Leaf decoction taken vs. lung disorders and used vs. skin burns. Report from 1771 has an unnamed part applied vs. snakebite from pit vipers of the genus *Bothrops*. Both aerial parts and root extracts were shown to be effective vs. coagulation effects of *Bothrops diporus* venom. [zzzur] Argentina, root emetic. Mashed plant as poultice vs. snakebite and other venoms from animals. [zzzjg]

Argentina, Chorote, stem and leaves as bait in fishing for particular species. [zzzdf]

***Asclepias mexicana* Cav.**

Mexico, latex vs. warts. Considered poisonous. [zzzem] Southern California, poisonous to sheep. [zzzlm]

***Asclepias meyeriana* (Schltr.) Schltr.**

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

Southern Sotho, cold infusion of root as gargle vs. sore throat. [zz241]

Asclepias multicaulis (E.Mey.) Schltr. see ***Asclepias depressa***
Asclepias multicaulis Vell. don't see *Oxypetalum erectum* subsp. *campestre* (Vell.) Hoehne, a South American plant not included in this book.

***Asclepias navicularis* (E.Mey.) Schltr.**

Southern Africa, unknown part used as famine food. [zzznw]

Asclepias notha **W.D.Stevens**
Mexico: "hierba de leche" (= milk herb). [zzzem]
Zapotec: "chicle guizh guts". [zzzem]
Tlaxcala, San Juan Quetzalcoapan: "chicle", (= chewing gum), "hierba de chicle". [zzzek]

Mexico, Tlaxcala, San Juan Quetzalcoapan, milky juice boiled to make chewing gum. [zzzek, zzzem]

Asclepias obtusifolia Kunze see ***Asclepias syriaca***
Asclepias obtusifolia Michx. see ***Asclepias amplexicaulis***

Asclepias oenotheroides **Cham. & Schltdl.**
Mexico: "hierba lechosa",
"hierba de mula",
"pancolote" (see also ***Gonolobus pancololote*** and ***Ruehssia zimapanica***),
"olores". [zzzej]
Aguascalientes: “talayote”. [rrrep]
Chihuahua: "hierba de zizotes". [zzzej]
Huastec: "ehtiil i punchiix wits". [zzzem]
Maya: "kabalk'umche". [zzzem]
El Salvador: "matacoyote" (= coyote killer). [zzzdv]
Costa Rica: "leche perro" (= dog milk). [zzzdv]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Aguascalientes. Fruit eaten raw with sugar or fried. [rrrep] Mexico. Fruit edible. [zzzem]

Mexico. Whole plant vs. toothache. [zzzem] Mexico, Chihuahua, toxic, medicinal. [zzzej]

Mexico, Aguascalientes. Ripe seeds (with fluff?) are used to make necklaces or crowns/garlands. [rrrep]

Asclepias oleracea see ***Caralluma adscendens***

Asclepias ovata **M.Martens & Galeotti**
Not to be confused with *Asclepias ovata* Steud., for which see ***Vincetoxicum nigrum***.

Mexico, Hidalgo. "tlalayote". [rrrep]

Mexico, Hidalgo. Fruits eaten raw. [rrrep]

Mexico, Hidalgo. Used vs. nervous system ailments and toothache. [rrrep]

Asclepias pallida E.Fourn. don't see *Asclepias candida* as I found no uses.
Asclepias pallida Roxb. see ***Telosma pallida***

***Asclepias perennis* Walter**
Reported as *Asclepias debilis*.

USA. Before 1830, source of a kind of flax. [rrrbk]

Asclepias physocarpa see ***Gomphocarpus physocarpus***

***Asclepias puberula* A.Gray**
Mexico, Aguascalientes: “chivita”. [rrrep]

Mexico, Aguascalientes. Fruit eaten unripe. [rrrep]

***Asclepias quinquedentata* A. Gray**
Mexico: "contrayerba de la sierra".
Tarahumara: "mo'cosi". [zzzem]

Mexico, boiled or fried leaves eaten.[zzzem]

Whole plant prepared vs. fever. [zzzem]

Asclepias robusta see ***Pachycarpus robustus***

Asclepias rosea Kunth. don't see *Asclepias senecionifolia* M.E.Jones as I found no uses.
Asclepias rosea Roxb. see ***Oxystelma esculentum***

***Asclepias schlechteri* (K.Schum.) N.E.Br.**

Swaziland. Edible leaves. [zz144]

Asclepias serpentaria see ***Asclepias lanceolata***

***Asclepias similis* Hemsl.**
Mexico: "mumun".
Tzeltal: "panyattez",
"mojowil akan",
Tzotzil: "mamal at momol". [zzzem]

Mexico. Fruit eaten. [zzzem]

Mexico. The plant boiled to make a bath vs. impetigo, may be combined with other herbs. Latex dripped onto boils. [zzzem]

Asclepias simplex see ***Asclepias stellifera***

Asclepias sinuosa see ***Asclepias crispa***

***Asclepias speciosa* Torr.**
Nevada, Paiute: "nah-quee-dah nat-tizuah",
"toh-hawk-quee",
"ut-sah-av",
"wee-ab-a-nuh". [zzzlj]
Shoshone: "be-ah bee-sha divo-oh-wip",
"be-jah-no-ko",
"be-sha-no-ko",
"bee-sha-wannup",
"pee-gee-wanna". [zzzlj]
California, Owens Valley Paiute: "Ă'vānăva". [zzzlp]
Tusayan Hopi: "Coya" (= "planting stick"). [zzzls]
? New Mexico, Acoma or Laguna peoples: "Haapa". [rrrcx]

Tusayan Hopi, leaves and young shoots boiled with meat and eaten. [zzzls] N. America, buds boiled and eaten with meat. Young shoots and leaves eaten by Hopi. [zz237]

California, Owens Valley Paiute, only occasionally used as food. [zzzlp]

Latex chewing gum for Gosiute. [zz237] New Mexico, Acoma or Laguna peoples. ? Possible source of chewing gum by breaking stalks and collecting latex. [rrrcx]

North America, Nevada, Paiute, ground ripe seeds (after silk floss burnt off) as salve vs. sores. Seeds boiled in a small amount of water and used as soak vs. rattlesnake bite to draw out poison. Boiled roots as hot tea, drunk to bring out rash of measles. Half-cup once or twice daily vs. cough and tuberculosis. The same externally vs. rheumatism. Nevada, Shoshone, latex vs. syphilitic sores, ringworm, cuts and to remove corns and calluses. Boiled roots as hot tea, less than half-cup taken vs. bloody diarrhoea. Mashed root moistened with water as poultice for several days vs. swellings. Paiute and Shoshone, latex as antiseptic and healing agent vs. sores. [zzzlj]

North America, latex to remove corns. [zzzas]

Asclepias spectabilis see ***Stathmostelma spectabile***

***Asclepias stellifera* Schltr.**
Southern Africa, Suto: "mohlatsisa",
"mohulantsa" (= "he who attracts dogs"). [zzzbf]
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "moholantja" (= "he who attracts dogs"). [zzznz]
Lesotho: "montsokoane",
"mohola-ntja". [zzzrr]

Swaziland. Edible leaves. [zz144] Southern Africa. Unknown part as snack. [zzznw]

S. Africa, Frankenwald area. Root infusion vs. stomach troubles. Manyika, root applied vs. protruding fontanelle. Southern Sotho, causes vomiting. Bushman (Khoisan) arrow poison ingredient. Emetic drink taken vs. snakebite and non-lethal lightning strike. [zzzbf, zz241] Emetic. [zzzrr]

"Asclepias stellifera"
This species does not appear to be known to be found this far north, though the colour photo looks very like *Asclepias stellifera.*

Democratic Republic of Congo, Kongo-Central. Macerated or powdered root by mouth as aphrodisiac. [zzzpz]

***Asclepias stenophylla* A.Gray**

Oklahoma, Apache, root ritual/magical. [zzzed]

***Asclepias subaphylla* Woodson**
Mexico: "candelilla bronca". [zzzdv]

Mexico, one drop of milk used as purgative. (Difficult to distinguish from ***Asclepias subulata***.) [zzzdv]

***Asclepias subulata* Decne.**
Mexico, Baja California: "Yamete". [zzzeb]
Sonora: "Yumete". [zzzeb]
Sonora, Seri: "najca'azjc" (see also ***Asclepias albicans***). [zzzem]
Sinaloa: "Candelilla bronca". [zzzeb]
"inmortal",
"jumete",
"talayote",
"mata candelilla",
"hierbajo lechoso". [zzzem]
"Talayote" is usually used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and various asclepiads. I found no reference to *Asclepias subulata* fruits being edible.

Mexico, latex as purgative and emetic. Recommended for rubber in times of emergency. [zz237] Mexico, juice as active emetic, [zzzea] emetic and purgative. [zzzeb]

Mexico, Sonora, Seri, used as ***Asclepias albicans***. [zzzao, zzzem] (Difficult to distinguish from ***Asclepias subaphylla***. [zzzdv])

***Asclepias subverticillata* (A.Gray) Vail**
Mexico, Chihuahua: "hierba lechosa" (= milky herb). [zzzej]
USA: “killer milkweed”.[rrrcw]

North America, Zuni. Shoots collected as food. This was contrasted by the author to the fact that this species was found to be the most toxic of the milkweeds tested by killing sheep, causing death at 0.2% of the animal's bodyweight. The toxicity was cardiac, like foxglove/digitalin. The Tewa ate the roots of many species of *Asclepias*, but avoided those of *Asclepias subverticillata*. [rrrcw]

Mexico, Chihuahua, toxic, medicinal. [zzzej]

***Asclepias syriaca* L.**
Missouri River, Omaha-Ponca: "Waḣta". [zzzlo]
Winnebago: "Mahiṅtsh". [zzzlo]
Pawnee: "Karípiku". [zzzlo]
Chippewa: "Inĭ'nĭwŭnj" (= man-like). [zzzgc]
"Oregon and Western tribes": "Nepesha". [rrrbk]
"Common Milkweed",
"Silkweed",
"Wild Cotton",
"Virginian Swallow-wort". [zzzcs]

This plant is not from Syria. The specific name *syriaca* was given by Linnæus in 1753 [zzzfj] despite the fact that he knew the habitat of the plant was Virginia, on the east coast of North America. The confusion came from this plant being described by Cornut in 1635 [zzzfk] as *Apocynum maius syriacum rectum.* Cornut was relying on a defective and incomplete (*manca sit & mutila*) description by Clusius who in 1601 had named a plant from Egypt, Syria and Constantinople (Istanbul) as *Apocynum syriacum*. That Syrian plant is now known as ***Calotropis procera***. [zzzfi] This led to much confusion as to the origins of *Asclepias syriaca*. Möller, a Westphalian cultivator in 1800 assumed it had been introduced to Europe from the Middle East during the crusades (11th to 13th centuries) but was also indigenous to North America. He even called it the Syrian Silk-Plant. [zzzfl] References are still made on the internet to this plant being cultivated in Syria for the seed floss. Confusion is perpetuated by statements in old books such as this one from 1897: "Syria, introduced and cultivated for the stem fibre for making muslin and coloured fabrics." [zzzco] It does not help that *Calotropis procera* is also used for both a soft stem fibre for making textiles and fluffy seed pod fibre for stuffing cushions.

North America, Missouri River, Omaha-Ponca, boiled young sprouts eaten like asparagus sprouts in early spring. Later in the year clusters of floral buds and young fruit (while firm and green) are also eaten boiled. When the Omaha and Pawnee first saw cabbage being boiled, they called it "white man's *Asclepias syriaca*", Omaha: "waḣta waḣe", Pawnee: "karípiku tsahiks-taka". [zzzlo] USA. Before 1830, shoots edible "like poke" [pokeweed, *Phytolacca*]. [rrrbl]

North America, young bud sprouts and young fruit eaten.[zz237] Americas, Virginia colonies, both natives and European colonists ate the boiled young shoots and flowers. [zzzle] Young shoots an excellent substitute for asparagus. [zzzcs] Canada, French eat shoots as asparagus and make a fine brown sugar from the flower nectar by boiling. Upper Platte Sioux boiled the young pods with buffalo meat. [zzzfd] Before 1830, honey compressed from the flowers. [rrrbl] Shoots and young fruit edible and delicious. [zzzbk] Southern Appalachia, natives ate young shoots and cooked tuberous roots. [zzzkz] North America, Chippewa, flowers cut up and stewed, eaten like preserves. Sometimes eaten before a feast so more food could be eaten. [zzzgc]

Bitterness only found in plants from north-eastern parts of the US. Shoots collected in Wisconsin and Michigan did not need water changes to remove bitterness. [zzzbk]

North America, Chippewa, half of a root broken up in a pint of boiling water. A tablespoon of the medicine in every liquid meal to produce a flow of milk in nursing women. [zzzgc] USA, "Oregon and Western tribes". Roots as emetics and vs. dropsy, asthma, dysentery. Not native to Oregon or the far West. This might be a similar species or it was introduced before 1830. ***Asclepias amplexicaulis*** and ***Asclepias incarnata*** used the same way. [rrrbk]

Juice applied to ulcers and recent wounds to form a protective adhesive pellicle (thin film or skin) and promote healing. Fluid extract of fresh tuber vs. amenorrhoea, dropsy, urinary retention, asthma, dyspepsia, cough, dyspnoea in a dose of 10 drops to a fluid drachm (3.7 ml). Diuretic, diaphoretic, lowers action of heart. [zzzcs] Latex for chewing gum. Dried root medicinal as alterative anodyne. [zz237] North America, Whitefolk, root as tonic, diuretic, alterative, emmenagogue, purgative and emetic. [zzzgc]

Americas, Virginia colonies, John Winthrop (in the Americas from 1630 to 1649) wrote a letter mentioning the pods being used for stuffing pillows and cushions. [zzzle] United States, Salem, from 1862 Miss Margaret Gerrish span thread from the plant and made many-coloured purses, workbags and socks.[zzzco]

Hats made from one-third floss and two-thirds hare's down were very light and soft. Floss also used in beds, coverlets and pillows which are light and convenient for travelling. Floss can be spun when mixed with flax, wool, etc. Stalks yielded a good paper. France, a factory making articles from the floss was established in Paris in 1760. Was used in Lausanne to make candlewicks. [zzzfl]

Stem gives useful fibre. [zz237] USA. Noted in 1830 as cultivated for the down. Produces more of the down than other species of *Asclepias*. Forty to fifty plants produce a pound of down. A pound and a half occupies a cubic foot, 0.68kg in 28 litres, 24g per litre. [rrrbl]

North America, Chippewa, root combined with root fibres of *Eupatorium perfoliatum* (Asteraceae) as a charm attached to whistles for calling deer. [zzzgc]

Flower buds simmered lightly for three minutes in water, drained and dressed with a pinch of salt are exquisite. A fine sweet, delicate but distinctive flavour. No stringiness. My plant must be one of the non-bitter varieties. Unfortunately, this species was added to the list of Invasive Alien Plant Species under UK and EU law in 2017 - meaning cultivation, swaps and sale are prohibited. When I saw the law, I killed my plant in 2023 and 2024. [me]

Three sprouts harvested on the 6th of May, when they had reached about 10cm (4 inch) height above the soil. Total length was 22-24cm and total weight 19g. Cut into 5cm sections and placed in boiling water, simmered for 10 minutes. Smelled of mild but nice vegetables while cooking, no particular or peculiar smell. Taste was mildly sweet and rich but no particular strong flavour. Succulent and tender, very comparable to fine small asparagus in texture. Slight fibrous texture lower in the stem but not stringy and easily chewed. There was a slight bitterness to the very lowest 2cm of the stem which changed to sweetness after a drink of water. I would definitely eat more if I had them. [me, 2020]

Eight pods, harvested at 4 to 6 cm long on the 25th of August 2022, flower remains removed and the stalk trimmed off before rinsing in water. Each pod sliced in half, some lengthways and some widthways. Boiled vigorously for 6 minutes. Delicious, a light sweetness, no bitterness and a delicate but distinct flavour. Several different textures from the different parts. Not as good as the flower buds but still a gourmet vegetable. The water in which the pods were boiled was sweet but not in a sugary way, no bitterness at all.

Four pods harvested at 7 to 7.5cm long on the 31st of August 2022 and the insides removed, tough pods discarded. Seeds still very pale and unripe. Boiled for seven minutes. The silk was slightly chewy but the seeds were very tender. Mild green bean taste. The water it was boiled in had the slightly sweet taste of the buds and shoots. Edible but not as delightful as the other parts. [me, 2022]

"Asclepias syriaca"

Between 1788 and 1804 Martin Sessé and José Mariano Mociño collected plants that would later be described in the *Flora Mexicana* [zzzme] and *Plantae Novae Hispaniae* [zzzmf]. They included *Asclepias syriaca* but as it does not occur in Mexico I assume it was a similar species. Talayote is a common name in Mexico for the edible fruitpods of various species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***. as well as *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae). Sessé and Mociño stated:

> "Use. Follicles called Tlaloyotl by the natives who eat it."

In the original Latin:

> "Usus. Folliculi ab Indigenis Tlaloyotl nuncupati ipsis esculenti sunt." [zzzmf].

***Asclepias tuberosa* L.**

Hocąk (Winnebago): "Mąkąską" (= medicine white, from the pale colour of the root, presumably). [zzzjw]

Missouri River, Omaha-Ponca: "kiu maka^{n}" (= wound medicine),
"Maka^{n} saka" (= medicine, raw). [zzzlo]

Mexico: "inmortal". [zzzem]

USA, English:

"Pleurisy Root". [rrrbl, zzzcs]
"Butterfly Weed". [rrrbl, zzzcs]
"Colic Root". [zzzcs]
"Flux Root". [rrrbl]
"Orange Milkweed". [zzzcs]
"Orange Swallow-wort". [zzzcs]
"Silk Weed". [rrrbl]
"Wind Root". [rrrbl, zzzcs]
"Wind Weed". [zzzcs]
"White Root". [rrrbl, zzzcs]
"Canada Root". [rrrbl]

N. America, "Western Indians", pods boiled and eaten with buffalo meat. Dried root medicinal. [zz237, zzzcs] Canadian tribes, tender shoots and greens eaten boiled. Roots eaten boiled. [zz237, zzzcs, zzzfd]

Upper Platte Sioux prepared crude sugar from the flowers and ate the young pods. [zzzfd] Southern Appalachia. Young shoots eaten and sugar prepared from the flowers. [zzzkz]

North America, Missouri River, Omaha-Ponca, root eaten raw vs. bronchial or pulmonary trouble. Root chewed and put into wounds or dried and powdered and blown into wounds. Used vs. old, obstinate sores. Always used raw, not boiled. The medicine and its rites among the Omaha belonged to the Shell Society, sacred dance lodges who specialised in herbal medicine. There was one keeper/guardian of the *Asclepias tuberosa* who was responsible for the four days of ceremonial during digging of the root, preparation, consecration and distribution. [zzzlo]

North America, Hocąk (Winnebago), root chewed, placed in wound to heal it. Root drunk vs. haemorrhage. [zzzjw] Southern Appalachia, natives used root as diaphoretic and expectorant, especially vs. pleurisy. [zzzkz]

Mexico, powdered root inhaled to alleviate nasal obstruction. [zzzem]

Reported in 1828 as used in the US as "subtonic, diaphoretic, expectorant, diuretic, laxative, escarotic, carminative, antispasmodic, &c". Valuable popular remedy, mildly provoking sweat, safely without stimulating the body, vs. typhus fever, pneumonia and catarrh. Promotes suppressed expectoration, relieves breathing in pleurisy. Vs. dyspnoea and chest pains. Mild cathartic, suitable for children. Also vs. cholic, hysteria, menorhagia, dysentery, etc as well as vs. asthma, rheumatism, syphilis and worms. Restores stomach tone and digestion. Powdered root, dose from 20-30 grains (1.3 to 1.9 grammes) three times a day. One gill (118 ml) of the decoction or infusion every few hours. Infusion in wine or decoction in milk recommended in some cases. The author suggested that due to its valuable properties it should become an article of commerce and be kept in shops, &c. Which it did, though now not so widespread. [rrrbl] Root, in US medicine in 1892 "subtonic, diaphoretic, alterative, expectorant, diuretic, laxative, escharotic, carminative, antispasmodic, anti-pleuritic, stomachic, astringent, anti-rheumatic, anti-syphilitic, and what not?" Powdered root, dose 20-40 grains (1.3 to 2.6 grammes), recommended vs. "low typhoid states, pneumonia, catarrh, bronchitis, pleurisy, dyspepsia, indigestion, dysentery, helminthiasis, and obstinate eczemas". Regarded by some as one of the most important indigenous remedies in the USA. [zzzcs] Virginia, provokes sweating without raising body temperature so used vs. pleurisy. [zzzbd] Root vs. pneumonia, pleurisy and catarrh. Mild tonic and stimulant. *Asclepias decumbens* L. was used in the same manner and is now regarded as part of this species. [zzzdh]

Oklahoma, Apache, root ritual/magical. [zzzed]

***Asclepias verticillata* L.**

Navajo: "Tł'iic pitee'ts'óoz" (= slender snake horn). [zzzlq]
Hopi: "Piyüña" (= milk charm, a name also given to *Euphorbia parryi*). [zzzls]
New Mexico, Acoma or Laguna peoples: "Uityama". [rrrcx]
Zuñi: "Ha´watseki" (= "leaf boy"). [rrrcy]

North America, New Mexico, Acoma or Laguna peoples. When the silk in the fruit is ripe enough to separate easily, it is mixed with grease and chewed as chewing gum. [rrrcx] North America, Arizona, White Mountain Apache. Children eat the first buds. [rrrcm] New Mexico, Zuñi: Called "leaf boy" because young boys collect the first buds to eat as a great treat. [rrrcy] All of these were reported as *Asclepias galioides*.

Mississippi, Southern or Six Towns Choctaw. In the 1830s, a self-taught doctor and botanist called Gideon Lincecum was practicing medicine in Mississippi. He lost a number of patients, so he was unhappy with his European medical books. He contacted the most learned healer ("alikchi chito" = "big doctor") of the Choctaw and learnt everything he could. The Chochtaw doctor was afraid his knowledge would die out if it were not written down by a white man. On the use of *Asclepias verticillata*, Lincecum recorded:

> "The root. Sudorific, stimulating. The Choctaws esteemed it among their most valuable remedies for snakebite. They administered it in strong decoction, and chewed the root, swallowing the saliva while chewing." [zzzlt]

North America, New Mexico, Acoma or Laguna peoples. Crushed leaves or a tea rubbed on their breasts by nursing mothers to give more and richer milk. Reported as *Asclepias galioides*. [rrrcx] South Dakota, Lakota, to increase milk in nursing mothers. [iiilg] Tusayan Hopi, entire plant boiled, infusion taken by nursing mothers vs. scanty milk flow. [zzzls] Navajo, dried and powdered herb internally vs. nose and throat troubles. [zzzlq]

New Mexico, Zuñi. Pods gathered when "two-thirds ripe" to use the seed fluff for spinning with a spindle. Not suitable when fully ripe. Used fresh on the day or dampened when used later. Used like cotton (and called "cotton") to make beautiful white dance-kilts, women's belts and other articles. Rain priests make cords of the fluff with just their fingers. These cords are used in prayer stick offerings. Reported as *Asclepias galioides.* [rrrcy]

USA, South-west. Fibres greyish-white and very strong, used by natives for sewing "rabbit robes" and tying material for construction. [zzzco]

Moerman gave the uses "Hopi Food, Unspecified Leaves and young shoots boiled with meat and eaten." and "Hopi Other, Tools Used as a planting stick." [iiilg] However, the reference given clearly has these in the entry for ***Asclepias speciosa*** not under *Asclepias verticillata*. What Fewkes actually wrote for *Asclepias speciosa* was "The Hopi word *coya* is the name of the planting stick, and is applicable to the plant in allusion to its stiff, straight stalk. Its leaves and the young shoots are boiled with meat as a food." [zzzls]

Asclepias vincetoxicum see ***Vincetoxicum hirundinaria***

***Asclepias viridiflora* Raf.**

North America, Blackfoot, plant used in spring to spice soups. Fresh root often eaten and pieces saved for winter soups. [zzzlr]

North America, Blackfoot, root chewed vs. sore throat. Root chewed and applied vs. sore eyes, swellings and rashes, especially good vs. diarrhoea rash and nursing baby's sore gums. [zzzlr] South Dakota, Lakota, pulverised roots vs. diarrhoea in children. Infusion of whole plant to increase milk in nursing mothers. [iiilg]

***Asclepias woodii* (Schltr.) Schltr.**
Swaziland: "liphoti". [zz144]

Swaziland, fruit eaten in small quantities. [zz144] Southern Africa, fruit as snack. Unknown part as vegetable. [zzznw]

***Asclepias woodsoniana* Standl. & Steyerm.**
Mexico, Tzeltal: "te'wamal". [zzzem]

Mexico, herb vs. heart pain. [zzzem]

Asclepiodora decumbens see ***Asclepias asperula* ssp. *capricornu***

Asclepiodora insignis see ***Asclepias lynchiana***

***Aspidoglossum* spp. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
see also ***Schizoglossum*** spp., ***Cynanchum atropurpureum*** and ***Cynanchum virens***.

***Aspidoglossum araneiferum* (Schltr.) Kupicha**
Reported as *Schizoglossum araneiferum*.

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Sehoètè Ntlhokoe" (= "slender carrot") [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The root is eaten raw." [zzznz] Lesotho, edible. [zz65] Tubers eaten [zz241] in Swaziland [zz144].

***Aspidoglossum biflorum* E.Mey.**
Sometimes reported as *Schizoglossum shirense* and *Schizoglossum biflorum*.

Lesotho, Tsehlanyane and Bokong: "mputsoe". [zz139]
Tanzania, Nyamwezi: "Uzara". See also ***Xysmalobium undulatum***.

Tuber edible. [zz241] Southern Africa, unknown part as vegetable. [zzznw] Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, in the list in 1917 of local species of *Schizoglossum* but with no use specified. Of ***Periglossum angustifolium*** in the same article: "The roots of this plant and of all species of *Schizoglossum* are eaten, especially by children." [zzznz]

Whole plant used vs. dysentery, as a stomachic and sexual stimulant. [zz32] Lesotho, Tsehlanyane and Bokong, medicinal. [zz139]

***Aspidoglossum erubescens* (Schltr.) Bullock**
Reported as *Schizoglossum pentheri*.

Namibia, Herero: "ombaruru". [zzzsl]

Namibia, Herero. Tubers eaten. [zzzsl]

***Aspidoglossum gracile* (E.Mey.) Kupicha**

Southern Africa, fruit and undetermined part as snack. [zzznw]

***Aspidoglossum interruptum* (E.Mey.) Bullock**
Reported as *Schizoglossum interruptum.*

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Sehoètè Phofu" (= "carrot of the eland") [zzznz]
"Sehoètè Leqaɫa" (= "bamboo carrot") [zzznz]
"Moramaphofu" (= something "eland") [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The root is eaten raw." [zzznz] Tubers eaten [zz241] in Swaziland [zz144].

Aspidoglossum lamellatum **(Schltr.) Kupicha**
Reported as *Schizoglossum lamellatum*.

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Sehoètè-moro" (= "juicy carrot") [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The root is eaten raw." [zzznz] Tuber edible. [zz241]

Aspidoglossum ovalifolium **(Schltr.) Kupicha**

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, in the list in 1917 of local species of *Schizoglossum* but with no use specified. Of ***Periglossum angustifolium*** in the same article: "The roots of this plant and of all species of *Schizoglossum* are eaten, especially by children." [zzznz]

Aspidoglossum woodii **(Schltr.) Kupicha**
Reported as *Schizoglossum pulchellum*.

Tuber edible. [zz241]

Astephanus triflorus **(L.f.) R.Br. ex Schult. {Asclepiadeae - Astephaninae}**

Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

Atherolepis pierrei see ***Finlaysonia pierrei***

Australluma peschii **(Nel) Plowes {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Namibia, stems edible when turgid, "slightly sourish but not unpleasant taste combined with a lettuce-like consistency." [zzzow]

B

Baseonema gregorii **Schltr. & Rendle {Periplocoideae}**
Kenya, Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo: "ngaisiko". [rrras]
Sumburu district, Suiei Dorobo: "nkaisigo". [zz7a]

Northern Kenya, Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo. Root edible and becomes available in January/Februrary during the minor dry season. Important but not one of the major foods. [rrras] East Kenya, Sumburu district, Suiei Dorobo. During the rainy season or early dry season the tuber is eaten raw or roasted. [zz7a]

Reference [zz7a] has disappeared off the internet. Matthews Range is in Samburu County.

Baynesia lophophora **Bruyns {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

NW Namibia, Baynes Mountains, stems eaten when turgid after rains. [zzzow]

Biondia microcentra see ***Adelostemma microcentrum***

Blepharodon mucronatus see ***Vailia anomala***

Blyttia fruticulosa see ***Vincetoxicum fruticulosum***

Boucerosia aaronis see ***Apteranthes europaea var. judaica***

Boucerosia acutangula see ***Desmidorchis retrospiciens***

Boucerosia adscendens see ***Caralluma adscendens***

Boucerosia aucheriana see ***Desmidorchis aucheriana***

Boucerosia campanulata see ***Boucerosia umbellata***

Boucerosia crenulata **(Wall.) Wight & Arn. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**
Reported as Caralluma truncatocoronata.

India, Karnataka, Telugu: "Alkanjor". [zzzog]

India, Karnataka, hills just outside Narasapura toward Kolar, during monsoon season the shoots are regarded as a real delicacy by the locals. [zzzog]

India, Coimbatore, important medicinal plant vs. "various ailments". [zzztz]

Boucerosia diffusa **Wight**
Also reported as *Caralluma diffusa.*

India, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, used as a vegetable. [zzztn] India, Tamil Nadu, Ghats, young shoots gently heated and eaten as a vegetable. [zzzto] Tamil Nadu, Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary, succulent stem eaten raw, coooked with salt and spices or added to savoury preserves. [zzzox]

India, Tamil Nadu, Ghats, young stem sap internally for blood purification and vs. obesity. [zzzto] India, Madukkarai Hills, sap of young stems vs. obesity. [zzzox]

Boucerosia edulis see ***Caudanthera edulis***

Boucerosia frerei **(G.D.Rowley) Meve & Liede**
Originally called *Frerea indica*, also reported as *Caralluma frerei*.

India, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, Marathi: "Sindhad Makad". [zzznt]
Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Makadshingi". [rrrat]
Purandhar: "Potdukhi". [zzzns]
Marathi: "Shindal Makudi" [zz80] (= unchaste monkey?). See also ***Caralluma adscendens*** **var.** ***fimbriata*** which has the same name.

India, Maharashtra, eaten when leafless. Very rare and only found in a very small area. [zzztx] Locals eat succulent stems and leaves. [zzzty] India, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, stem used as a vegetable. [zzznt] India, Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Fresh shoots/stem eaten raw. [rrrat]

Commonly used for wound-healing by locals. [zzznr] India, Maharashtra, Purandhar, leaf paste applied externally to promote hair growth. [zzzns]

Becoming common in cultivation, best kept warm and moist. I have nibbled a few spare bits of the plants when I pruned them. The stems and leaves were both a pleasant texture and quite tasty, with only a trace of the strong bitterness that makes *Caralluma adscendens* challenging to eat for someone unused to it. The latex seemed to help a grazed knuckle heal more easily than usual, just one drop twice a day. [me, 2025]

Boucerosia hispanica see ***Apteranthes munbyana***

Boucerosia indica **(Wight & Arn.) Plowes**
Reported as *Caralluma indica.*

India, Malayalam: "Pullakidy". [zz80]

Edible and enjoyed by shepherd boys. [zz173] India, particularly liked as the stems are pleasantly acid and not bitter. [zzztt]

Boucerosia munbyana see ***Apteranthes munbyana***

***Boucerosia pauciflora* Wight**
Reported as *Caralluma pauciflora*.

India, Tamil Nadu, Western Ghats, Madurai, Valaiyan tribe, stem edible. [zzzts] India, particularly liked as the stems are pleasantly acid and not bitter. [zzztt]

***Boucerosia procumbens* (Gravely & Mayur.) Plowes**
Sometimes reported as *Caralluma procumbens.*

India, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, far south: "periya kallutainchan" (= big rock-piercer). [zzztt]
Tamil Nadu: “Paaraikalli” (= rock *Euphorbia*). [zzztv]

Tamil Nadu, young shoots eaten raw, particularly liked for its acid taste, not bitter. [zzztw]

Tamil Nadu, traditionally used vs. bowel complaints. Medicated oil from plant vs. rheumatism and to relieve pain. [zzztv]

Boucerosia truncatocoronata see ***Boucerosia crenulata***

***Boucerosia umbellata* (Haw.) Wight & Arn.**
Also reported as *Caralluma umbellata* and *Caralluma lasiantha*.

India, Tamil Nadu, "oddan kilivan" (also used of similar large species). [zzztt]
Western Ghats: “Sirumankeerai”. [zz239, zzzqr]
Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Kallimulayan". [zzztf]
Salem District, Vanavasi Hill: "Mullagay". [zzzqw]
Coimbatore, Karamadai range, Pillur Beat: "eluman". [zzzun]
"elumanpuli". [zzzun]
Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal: "Kundeti kommulu". [rrrb]

India, Tamil Nadu, eaten cooked, only by the Oddan, a part of the caste regarded as "Untouchables" by the members of other castes. Similar large species also eaten cooked. [zzztt] India, Tamil Nadu, Palliyars, stem eaten. [zzzqr] India, Karnataka, edible. [zzztm]

Chitoor District and Andra Pradesh, India. Stem juice warmed and mixed with turmeric powder vs. stomach disorders. and abdominal pains. Activity-guided chemical analysis led to the discovery of a pregnane steroid glycoside carumbelloside-I which showed activity as a pain-killer (antinociceptive) and a flavone glycoside luteolin-4'-O-neohesperidoside, a potent anti-inflammatory. [zz182] Western Ghats, ten grams of fresh plant without roots twice a day for three days to reduce body heat. [zz239] India, Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Stem vs. stomach disorders. [rrrbb]

India, Tamil Nadu, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, stem burnt in direct fire and eaten on an empty stomach for five days vs. ulcers. [zzztf] India, Tamil Nadu, Tiruchirappalli District, Pachamalai Hills, stem vs. stomach disorder and abdominal pains. [zzzuk] Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore district, Karamadai range, Pillur Beat, stem juice vs. stomach disorder, abdominal pain, obesity, diabetes and ulcers. [zzzun] India, Tamil Nadu, Salem District, Vanavasi Hill, fruit vs. back pain. Stem vs. jaundice, rheumatism and neuralgia. [zzzqw] Sri Lanka, for setting bones and as a poultice to draw out spines and thorns. [zz79]

Brachystelma spp. see ***Ceropegia* spp.**

Brachystelma ananthapuramense see ***Ceropegia ananthapuramense***

Brachystelma arnotii or *B. arnottii* see ***Ceropegia arnotii***

Brachystelma barberiae or *B. barberae* see ***Ceropegia barberae***

Brachystelma bingeri see ***Raphionacme splendens***

Brachystelma buchananii see ***Ceropegia buchananii***

Brachystelma burchellii see ***Ceropegia burchelliana***

Brachystelma ciliatum see ***Ceropegia ciliatior***

Brachystelma circinatum see ***Ceropegia circinata***

Brachystelma cupulatum see ***Ceropegia cupulata***

Brachystelma dinteri (Schltr.) Phillips don't see *Ceropegia blepharanthera*
Brachystelma dinteri Schltr. see ***Ceropegia brevipedicellata***

Brachystelma discoideum see ***Ceropegia discoidea***

Brachystelma edule see ***Ceropegia edulissima***

Brachystelma elenaduensis or *B. elenaduense* see ***Ceropegia elenaduensis***

Brachystelma filiforme see ***Ceropegia circinata***

Brachystelma foetidum see ***Ceropegia rehmannii***

Brachystelma gerrardii see ***Ceropegia gerrardii***

Brachystelma glabriflorum see ***Ceropegia glabriflora*** & ***Ceropegia kerrii***

Brachystelma glabrum see ***Ceropegia glabra***

Brachystelma gondwanense see ***Ceropegia gondwanensis***

Brachystelma gracile see ***Ceropegia gracilior***

Brachystelma gymnopodum see ***Ceropegia pygmaea***

Brachystelma johnstonii see ***Ceropegia johnstonii***

Brachystelma kerrii see ***Ceropegia kerrii***

Brachystelma kolarensis or *B. kolarense* see ***Ceropegia kolarensis***

Brachystelma laevigatum see ***Ceropegia laevigata***

Brachystelma lankana or *B. lankanum* see ***Ceropegia lankana***

Brachystelma lineare see ***Ceropegia elliptica***

Brachystelma linearifolium see ***Ceropegia plocamoides***

Brachystelma magicum see ***Ceropegia buchananii***

Brachystelma malwanense see ***Ceropegia malwanensis***

Brachystelma microstemma see ***Ceropegia glabriflora***

Brachystelma nallamalayanum see ***Ceropegia nallamalayana***

Brachystelma naorojii see ***Ceropegia malwanensis***

Brachystelma nauseosum see ***Ceropegia buchananii***

Brachystelma pallidum see ***Ceropegia circinata***

Brachystelma papuana see ***Ceropegia glabriflora***
but *Ceropegia papuana* see ***Ceropegia cumingiana***

Brachystelma pauciflorum see ***Ceropegia spaniflora***

Brachystelma perditum see ***Ceropegia perdita***

Brachystelma plocamoïdes see ***Ceropegia plocamoides***

Brachystelma thunbergii see ***Ceropegia thunbergii***

Brachystelma rubellum see ***Ceropegia rubella***

Brachystelma schinzii see ***Ceropegia schinziata***

Brachystelma schultzei see ***Ceropegia schultzei***

Brachystelma shirense see ***Ceropegia buchananii***

Brachystelma shrirangii see ***Ceropegia shrirangii***

Brachystelma simplex see ***Ceropegia simplex***

Brachystelma swarupa see ***Ceropegia swarupa***

Brachystelma thunbergii see ***Ceropegia thunbergii***

Brachystelma togoense see ***Ceropegia togoensis***

Brachystelma tuberosum see ***Ceropegia spathulata***

Brachystelma volubile see ***Ceropegia volubicaulis***

Buckollia volubilis **(Schltr.) Venter & R.L. Verh. {Periplocoideae}**
Sometimes reported as *Curroria volubilis*.

Northern Kenya, Turkana: "koligo". [zzzwm]

South Ethiopia, Hamar, tuber edible, harvested in one dry season in January/February and the rainy season from April to June. [zzzqm] Kenya, Turkana, aerial parts are sometimes eaten as a vegetable. [zz199]

Tanzania, Sukuma, pounded tuber in drinking water to increase milk production in women and cows. [zz189] Kenya, decoction of the stem bark to ease childbirth and vs. malaria. [zz199]

Northern Kenya, Turkana, domestic use, not food. [zzzwm] Turkana, latex as glue to fix spearheads to the shaft. [zz199]

C

***Calotropis* spp. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Many early reports are confusing about the species involved, though many are given as *Calotropis gigantea* or *Asclepias gigantea*. Any I doubted are placed here, though any of the other references given under the species names could be equally misled by the older textbooks. One article, regarding the two species as more or less interchangeable, records 62 separate medicinal uses for various parts. [zzzhg]

Java: "Badorie". [zzzcg]

India, Western Ghats, used to prepare an intoxicating liquor called "Bar". [zzzoc] Northern Nigeria, milky juice used to prepare intoxicating liquor called "gíya", the Hausa word for beer-like drinks. [zzzod]

India, leaves used in many rituals. Western India, in a case of a difficult and painful birth the woman's friends offer a coin and a betel quid to the sacred tree in return for one ceremoniously removed leaf, which they promise to return soon. The leaf is placed on the head of the patient and then returned to the tree. This may be related to the god of wind, Maruti (the healing ape-god Hanuman) who was born under the tree and to whom the flowers are offered every Saturday. The plant is said to be a transformation of Surya, the sun-god. The leaves were thought to drive off rabid dogs. To avoid the curse on a third wife, which results in her early death, a man would marry a *Calotropis* as his third wife. The tree was then cut down and afterwards he would marry his "fourth wife". [zzzdr]

Roxburgh reports that the acrid, milky juice and the plant were used for various medicinal uses, especially fits (including vs. convulsions from coitus after bathing) and spasms (inclusing lockjaw), paralysis, cold sweats, poisonous bites and venereal complaints. [zzzcc] Java, mashed roots mixed with rice flour and rubbed on tired or heavy feet. Latex applied vs. toothache. [zzzcg] Some part used vs. elephantiasis, venereal diseases, chronic skin affections, worms. [zzzct] Rootbark with neem oil vs. rheumatic joints. Seeds soaked in milk vs. leprosy, enlargement of liver or spleen and dropsy. [zzzdr] The latex mixed with the latex of *Euphorbia neriifolia* as a drastic purgative and caustic. This mixture with the powdered wood of *Berberis asiatica* applied to sinuses and vs. anal fistulas. Powdered rootbark soaked in latex and dried, made into incense and the smoke inhaled vs. cough. Other preparations of the rootbark vs. elephantiasis, eczema, skin diseases, dropsy, worms. Flowers digestive, stomachic and tonic vs. cough, asthma, catarrh, loss of appetite. [zzzen]

India, leaf or latex was often used as a poison in homicide, infanticide, etc. The caustic nature of the fresh latex is attested by the story of a European sergeant who found himself short of paper while doing his business out in the bush one morning. He made the mistake of using a *Calotropis* leaf. Immediate inflammation of the anus spread to the perineum, scrotum and testicles and lasted some time. (zzzdr)

Northern Nigeria, feeble branches used for fences and support of maize thatch for constructing dwellings. Pith used for tinder. [zzzod]

India, Madras, stem bark fibre regarded as the best and strongest material for bowstrings and tiger-traps. The traditional method of fibre preparation was tedious and time-consuming. Commercial exploitation was not possible as the proprtion of fibre was low, machine preparation was difficult and the fibres were only 3 to 8 inches long. The seed floss has been used in paper-making. [zzzco] Fine silky fibres like flax are prepared from the young shoots. [zzzcc] India, East Coast around the Indus delta, bark fibre used as rot-proof fishing nets. Used to make cloth from canvas to a quality used in the clothes of Rajas. Due to its strength used in the making of bowstrings, pitfall traps and tiger traps. Certain castes wear a sacred cord of the fibres slung around them. [zzzdr]

Roman ships found at Pisa San Rossore were found to have ropes with a large proportion of *Calotropis* and *Gomphocarpus* fibre. [zzzfm] Fibre known in Europe in 1862 as *Ak* or *Mudar*. [zzzoc]

The fresh latex, alone or mixed with salt, is used to remove the hair from skins before tanning. Mixed to a paste with pearl millet (Pennisetum glaucum) and lac it is used to dye leather yellow and reduces the smell. [zzzdr]

India, Konkan, the forest tribes ignore most of the properties but use the roots of both species to make a fine charcoal. [zzzdr] India, the root powder is used to test safflower. [zzzdr] Perhaps this was to distinguish it from saffron? [me]

***Calotropis gigantea* (L.) Dryand.**

India, Hindi: "Safed aak". [zz80]
West Bengal, Bengali: "Akanda". [zzzxm]
Mizoram: “Madar”. [fffas]
Meghalaya, Garo tribe: "akom-aring". [zzzkk]
East Assam, Golaghat District: “Akon” [fffaa]
Rajasthan, Aravalli Hills: "SafedAkro". [rrrau]
Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purandhar: "Rui". [zzzns]
border of Ahmednagar and Nashik, Marathi: "Rui". [zzznt]
NW Ahmednagar: "Mothi Rui". [rrrat]
Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil: "Dev rui". [zzzot]
Satpura Hills, Pawra tribe - "Akav". [fffar]
"Ak",
"Akra",
"Rui",
"Raj",
"Madar". [zzzpk]
Tamil Nadu, Salem District, Vanavasi Hill: "Erukku". [zzzqw]
Dindigul district, Thoppampatti: "Erukku". [zzzse]
Kanyakumari, Kani tribes: "Arkkam",
"Erukku". [rrran]
Malayalam: "Bel-Erícu". [zzzpn]
Nagaland: "Numsubatong". [zzzkj]
Konkani: "Davi-Roey". [zzzpn]
Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal: "Tella jilledu". [rrrbb]

Nepal, Nepali: "Aank". [zzzdp]
Bantar: "Akwain". [zzzdp]
Terai forest, Nepali: "Aank". [zzzom]
Tharu: "Madar". [zzzom]
Sri Lanka, Sinhala: "Wara",
Tamil: "Manakkovi",
"Errukalai",
"Urkkovi". [zzzds]
China: 牛角瓜 "niu jiao gua" (= cow horn melon). [zz141]
Thailand, Lahu Hill Tribe: "faˆ hkoˆ veˆ". [zzzjv]
Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai: "hak". [zzzpu]
"Rak" [zzzsm]
"Po-thuean" [zzzsm]
"Pan-thuean" [zzzsm]
East Timor, Laklei:"Ai-sucar",
Idate: "Ai-tabuac". [zzzjr]
Philippines, Tagalog: "kapal-kapál". [zzzhd]
"Capal capal". [fffac]
Java: "Sadoeri",
"Sidagoeri",
"Widoeri". [zzzhh]
Indonesia, Central Sulawesi, Tompu District: "Roviga". [zzziy]

The second volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1679. One of the plants described was called "Bel-Erícu" in Malayalam. There was no picture but it was described as like "Erícu" but usually with white flowers, "Bel" meaning white. It seems likely that this is *Calotropis gigantea* as "Erícu" is clearly ***Calotropis procera***. The author described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "Pounded and with boiled oil of Vépu (Neem, *Azadirachta indica*) in anointing the affected part in gout. The root & leaves, pounded and boiled in milk for the venomous bite of a dormouse* ; it has the same virtues as Erícu (*Calotropis procera*)."

* Presumably, a dangerous dormouse-like Indian animal, perhaps a treeshrew.

In the original Latin:

> "Trita & cum oleo de *Vépu* decocta in unctione partis affectæ podagra prodest. *Radix* & *folia* trita & in lacte data ferviunt pro venenato morsu gliris ; easdem quoque cum *Erícu* virtutes habet." [zzzpn]

India, flowers fried in ghee, given at 30 minute intervals for easy delivery. [zzzaf] Southern Tamil Nadu, root paste with ghee orally for 3-7 days vs. snakebite. [zzzbh] Meghalaya: flower, bark, leaves, root vs. cold, cough and elephantiasis. [zzzxk] Tamil Nadu, Tiruchirappalli District, Pachamalai Hills, latex vs. dog bite. [zzzuk] India, Tamil Nadu, Salem District, Vanavasi Hill, leaves vs. elephantiasis, wounds and boils. Flowers vs. cough, scabies and to improve appetite. [zzzqw] India, Tamil Nadu, Kanyakumari, Kani tribes. Leaf warmed, applied and tied in place with cloth vs. swelling legs. [rrran]India, Tamil Nadu, Dindigul district, Thoppampatti, whole plant, powder or juice orally as stomachic and purgative, vs. bronchitis and asthma. [zzzse]

India, Nagaland, leaf juice applied vs. skin disease and pain, especially joint pain. [zzzkj]

Eastern India, Santals, used vs. toothache, leg pains, chest pain, muscle pain, loin pain, pain, hemiplegia, epilepsy, convulsions, rheumatism, spleen diseases, dropsy, anasarca, sores, stings, scabies, ringworm, smallpox, syphilis, boils, carbuncles, hydrocele, postnatal complaints, cholera, dysentery, intestinal strangulation, tongue paralysis, neuralgia, pleurisy, pneumonia, jackal or dog bite, rabies, tetanus, delirium febris and haemorrhagic septicaemia. [zzzlf] In 1841, used vs. epilepsy and paralysis. [rrrhg]

India, Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purandhar, leaf paste externally vs. swelling of stomach. [zzzns] Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, latex vs. injury. [zzznt] India, Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Latex applied vs. skin complaints, wounds and swellings. [rrrat] Maharashtra, Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil, flower ash mixed with honey orally twice a day for 7-8 days vs. asthma. [zzzot] Maharashtra, Satpura Hills, Pawra tribe - root paste is applied to herpes until cured. [fffar]

Maharashtra, root bark similar to ipecac - causing vomiting. Plant is purgative, anthelmintic and used vs. leprosy, ulcer, tumours, piles, disease of the spleen, the liver and the abdomen. Plant ornamental. [zzzpk]

India, Eastern Himalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Apatani, root vs. dog bite. [zzzon] Karnataka, Central Western Ghats, leaves and root vs. eczema, herpes, pruritis, scabies. [zzzup] India, Rajasthan, Aravalli Hills, Railmagra. Powder of white flowers with honey orally vs. mental disorders. [rrrau]

India, Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Powdered root vs. asthma, snake bite, rat bite. Some parts vs. elephantiasis. [rrrbb] West Bengal, Purba Medinipur district, decoction vs. digestive disorder. [zzzxm] India, Mizoram: leaf, sap and stem to heal wounds. [fffas] Northeast India, Meghalaya, Garo tribe, extract of fresh leaf, one teaspoon three times per day vs. malaria. [zzzkk] India, East Assam, Golaghat District. Leaves and latex - latex used in burning [cauterising?] wound. [fffaa]

Nepal, Bantar, flowers and milky juice vs. asthma and malaria. [zzzdp] China, bark vs. neurodermatitis, syphilis. Leaves as poultice. [zz141] Western Nepal, Terai forest, collected easily from the wild. Root paste applied vs. boils, pimples and skin disease. Milky latex applied vs. muscular pain, cut, wounds, boils and ringworm. Flower powder orally vs. cough, cold and bronchitis. [zzzom] Nepal, Lamjung District. Paste/decoction of flower, sap, root, leaf vs. gastritis, paralysis, body pain, wounds, fracture, sprain. [rrrgl]

Thailand, Lahu Hill Tribe, bark boiled, liquid applied vs. skin rash in children. Bark with bark of *Tectona* boiled together, liquid vs. fever in children. [zzzjv] Malay Peninsula and Indonesia adopted the use from Indian migrants. Malay Peninsula, leaf smoke inhaled vs. nose ulcers, latex dropped into wounds and hollow teeth. Decoction of flowers and leaves as stimulant. Indonesia, milky sap vs. toothache, boils, cracked feet, swellings, to remove thorns and in ointments vs. rheumatism. [zz177]

Java, leaves vs. itching, especially from smallpox. [zzzhh] Philippines, bark and thickened latex as alterative in some skin diseases and vs. worms. [zzzhd] Indonesia, Central Sulawesi, Tompu District, leaf mashed with coconut milk and applied vs. skin ulcer and skin disease. [zzziy] East Timor, Laklei, roots boiled and drunk vs. painful urination that is cloudy white. [zzzjr]

India, Rajasthan, Aravalli Hills. Bouquet of flowers wrapped in leaves as gift for lovers. 12-13 year old roots take the shape of Ganesh, kept in house to avoid mishaps. [rrrau]

Seed floss made into strings used as tinder by nomadic Arabs and Tartars. [zzzdr] China. Juice to make yellow dye and in tanning. Fine fibre from stems. [zz141] Ancient Arabs associated it with sun-worship. India, a popular tradition assumed that the Emperor Akbar was named from this *ak* bush. [zzzci] Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai, flowers gathered from forest for cultural purposes. [zzzpu]

Gives a gutta (a type of rubber) good for modelling. Insects produce an exudation used like varnish. Leaves as a green manure. Floss and stem-fibre used in paper. [zzzcv] Indian subcontinent, flowers worn in hair. Maria Gonds, leaves worn in hair. [zzzjy]

India. In 1890, the latex reported as sometimes added to the principal toxin, *Abrus precatorius* (Fabaceae) seed, in the preparation of the *sui* (needle) used in cattle killings and human assassinations. *Calotropis* latex was supposed to make the death more rapid. The latex was also one of many substances used in adulteration of opium. [rrrbm] In 1841, latex smells like opium. [rrrhg] 1.26% hydrocarbon/rubber by fresh weight. [zzzar]

Calotropis procera **(Aiton) Dryand.**

India: "Arka",
"Madar". [zzzam]
Hindi: "Aak". [zz80, zzzjm]
Haryana, Kurukshetra District: "safed aak" for white-flowered. [zzzjm]
Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal: "Jilledu". [rrrbb]
Uttar Pradesh: "madar". [zzzjs]
Uttar Pradesh, Gorakhpur District: "Madar". [zzzwq]
Jharkand, Panch Pargana area: "Aak". [zzzal]
Malayalam: "Erícu". [zzzpn]
Konkani: "Roey". [zzzpn]
Tamil Nadu, Karamadai Range, Nellithurai Beat, Irulas: "Pellerukku". [zzzul]
Maharashtra: "Ak",
"Akdo",
"Akro",
"Mandara",
"Rui". [zzzpk]
Western Ghats, Purandhar: "Rui". [zzzns]
Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil: "Safed ruee". [zzzot]
NW Ahmednagar: "Rui". [rrrat]

Pakistan, Afghan refugees: "Spalmai". [rrrgo]
Balochistan (southern), Brahui: "kărăk",
"ărrīgh",
Lassi: "kărk",
"āk". [zzzcq]
Balochistan, Kalat and Khuzdar regions: "Aragh",
"Karag". [zzzua]
Makerwal and Gulla Khel: "Akrra". [zzzub]
Mohmand Agency: "Spalmai". [zzzwx]
Buner District, Chagharzai Valley: "Spalmay". [zzzph]
Pathan: "Spalmai". [rrrgo]
Sialkot province: "Dasi Ak". [zzztb]
Sindh/Balochistan, coastal areas: "Aak". [zzziv]

Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, Brahui: "Arakh",
Balochi: "Karg". [zzzcp]

Nepal, Lamjung District, Dura: "Aank". [rrrgl]

Iraq: "ashkar",
"al dibaj". [zzzso]
Saudi Arabia, Bedouin: " 'ushar " [zzzwh]
Southwest: "oshur",
"oshar". [zzzjz]
Al-Rass province: "Oshar". [zzzsi]
SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: " العشر - Al Ashr" [fffat]
Yemen, central Abyan governate: "Ushur". [zzznu]
Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "i'ish'hur", "giniginoh". [rrrbd]
Bahrain: "Ushar". [zzzjq]
Oman: "ashkar". [zzzkl]
Dhofar, Jibbali: " 'úṯeb" (= cotton). [rrrbi]
Dhofari Arabic: " 'úšereh". [rrrbi]
Egypt: "oshaar". [zzzkt]
Eastern Desert, Khushmaan: " 'ushar". [rrrbh]
Bischarin: "bires",
"umberes". [rrrbh]
Berber: "Torcha",
"Touza",
"Ngeyi". [rrrax]
Sudan: " 'Ushar". [zz15a]
South Kordofan, Algoz: "Ushar". [zzzof]
Hadandawa: "Baras". [zz15a]
flower called "Kursi Al-Nabi". [zz15a]
Ethiopia, Benishangul-Gumuz regional state, Berta: "Aberdade". [zzzfu]
Bahirdar Zuria district, Amharic: "Tobiya". [zzzwl]
Amhara Region, Minjar-Shenkora District: "Kinbo",
"Tobiaw". [zzzid, zzzie]
South Welo (Wollo), Oromiffa: "Gura Harae". [zzzmw]
Menz Keya Gebreal District: "Kinbo". [rrrhw]
Northern Kenya, Pokot: "adodotian",
"adadat". [zzzwm]
Turkana: "etesuro",
"etithuru". [zzzwm]
Marakwet: "ararat", [zzzwm]
"Kibou". [zzztl]
East Africa, Swahili: "mpamba mwitu".
Somali: "bohr". [zzzky]
Tanzania, Somali: "Boah". [rrrbc]
Turkana: "Etithuru". [rrrbc]
Swahili: "Mpamba Mwitu". [rrrbc]
Western Sahara: "turxa". [zz84]
Sahrawi refugees: "tursha". [zzzoa]
Morocco, Tafilalet: "Taouerja",
"Tourza". [zzzeu]
Tata Province: "Tourja",
"Tawrzat",
"Twrza". [zzziu]
Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer, Touareg Tamahaq: "tourha". [zzzsb]
Arabic: "kranka". [zzzsb]
Libya, Northeast: "Barambekh". [rrrgz]

Nigeria, Katsina State, Hausa: "Tumfafiya". [zzzrx]
Kano State, Hausa: "Tumfafiya". [zzzxe]
north-east: "tunfáfia". [zzzod]
Central, Hausa: "tufatia",
Yoruba: "bomu-bomu". [zzzkn]
Mali, Adrar des Iforas: "torsha". [zzzez]
Benin, Allada plateau: "wangatchiman". [zzzha]
Bariba: "Kororou",
"Plompo". [zzzob]
Southern Senegal, Adeane, Pulaar: "Kipampaan",
Mandingo: "Poftan". [zzzxg]
China: 白花牛角瓜 "bai hua niu jiao gua" (= white flower cow horn melon). [zz141]
Viet, Annamese: "Cay bông bông". [zzzcv]
Bahamas: "cotton leaf". [zzzkv]

Sacred in Hinduism. Usually planted by temples of Lord Shiva. Garlands are made of the flowers and used as offerings. The leaves are offered to Hanuman. The wood is used in sacred altar fires (Homa or Havan). [I couldn't find a good source for this all in one place.]

Arabia, before Islam, branches tied to the tails of bulls and set aflame, the bulls then being driven down the mountains to attract rainstorms. [rrrbi]

Yemen, plant yields a “sort of tapioca-like substance called *sukkar al 'ushar* that can be used as a substitute for flour in hard years”. Ibn Sina (Avicenna, born 10th Century AD) mentioned this substance. He also stated that sitting under the tree could kill you. [rrrbi] A type of manna is produced from insect damage. [zzzcv]

Pakistan, Afghan refugees. Stem juice for fermentation. [rrrgo]

The second volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1679. One of the plants described was called Erícu in Malayalam. From the picture and description Erícu is clearly *Calotropis procera*. The author described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "Its decoction with oil benefits in the anointing of affected parts in gout. The decotion of the root given for a cold fever; the same also serves for the swellings of women after birth; the same with water applied in the washing of the bite by the snake called Hooded Cobra, helps. Simply chewed, serves for toothache. The juice of the leaves extracted and cooked with oil profits for the affected parts in arthritic pain, and it also serves if the leaves with oil and warmed by fire, are applied."

In the original Latin:

> "Ejus decoctum cum oleo in unctione partis affectæ podagra juvat. *Radix* in decocto data confert pro febre frigida; eadem quoque servit pro tumoribus mulierum quos habent post partum ; eadem cum aqua adhibita in lotione partis morsæ à colubro dicto *Cobra capella* , juvat ; simpliciter masticata pro doloribus dentium confert. *Succus Foliorum* extractus ac cum oleo decoctus parti affectæ doloribus arthriticis conducit, ad quod etiam servit si folia cum oleo peruncta & ad ignem calefacta apponantur." [zzzpn]

Nigeria, Kano State, Fulani, flowers eaten raw, gathered from the wild all year round. (Which seems odd considering everyone else says it is poisonous.) [zzzxe]

Central Nigeria, crushed leaves boiled with milk to curdle it, curds left overnight to ferment into a common local cheese. [zzzkn] Benin, Bariba, used in traditional milk processing for cheese production. Northern Bariba use the leaves in sauces. [zzzob]

Egypt, Eastern Desert, Khushmaan. Latex fermenting agent in *marrisa*, beer made from dates. [rrrbh] Sudan. Latex in *marisa* (sorghum beer) to increase the narcotic effect.[zz15a] India, every part of the plant is medicinal. Wood ash with honey vs. asthma. Flower latex vs. eczema. Leaves applied externally vs. stomach troubles, particularly for children. [zzzam] India, latex topical vs. toothache [zzzaf] when dried and is laxative. [zzzam] India, Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Bark, latex vs. asthma, snake bite, rat bite. Some parts vs. elephantiasis. [rrrbb] India, Haryana, Jhajjar District, Khetawas, Saperas community, used vs. male fertility disorders, eye diseases, snakebite, and other diseases already mentioned. [zzzft] India, Haryana, Kurukshetra District, dried, powdered flowers mixed with an equal quantity of rock salt to produce 100mg tablets. Three tablets three times daily orally with cold water vs. stomachache. Latex applied as antiseptic after removing thorn from the skin. Leaf and flower buds of white-flowered variety with equal quantities of *Sphaeranthus indicus* (Compositae) inflorescence and *Centella asiatica* (Apiaceae) leaves all dried in shade and powdered. Pinch of powder in 250ml cow's milk orally twice daily for ~2 months vs. eye disorder. [zzzjm] India, Meghalaya: flower vs. asthma, cold, cough, sore throat, sores, boils. [zzzxk] India, Uttar Pradesh, latex applied once vs. ringworm and eczema. The skin is burnt black and greatly irritated by the latex. [zzzjs] India, Uttar Pradesh, Gorakhpur District, smoke from burning semidried leaves and stem vs. piles. Leaf paste applied vs. bloated stomach in cattle. [zzzwq] Eastern India, Santals, used vs. spleen complaints, rheumatism, hemiplegia, epilepsy, sores, stings, smallpox and protracted labour. [zzzlf]

India, Tamil Nadu, Karamadai Range of Western Ghats, Nellithurai Beat, Irulas tribes, root bark vs. digestive disorders, diarrhoea, constipation, stomach ulcers and tooth ache. [zzzul] India, Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purandhar, latex applied externally vs. muscle contractions. [zzzns] Maharashtra, Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil, a pinch of salt with cotton soaked in latex inserted in teeth vs. toothache. [zzzot] India, Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Latex applied to forehead vs. headache. [rrrat] Maharashtra, fresh root as toothbrush. Rootbark vs. leprosy. Flowers vs. cholera. [zzzpk]

Pakistan, southern Balochistan, dried, powdered root snuffed vs. nasal congestion. Fumes from powdered root on hot coals inhaled vs. headache. Large leaf dipped in mustard oil bound to forehead with cloth vs. headache (possibly migraine). Slightly warmed leaves in oil bound to joints and limbs vs. rheumatism. Gum or leaves vs. pneumonia. Dried, powdered latex mixed with toothpaste to whiten teeth. [zzzcq] Pakistan, Balochistan, Kalat and Khuzdar regions, poisonous but latex applied externally vs. snake and insect bites. Flowers dried, powdered and formed into tablets vs. constipation. [zzzua] Pakistan, Buner District, Chagharzai Valley, dried leaves smoked vs. asthma, cough. Poisonous. [zzzph]

Northern Pakistan, Makerwal and Gulla Khell, latex vs. all kinds of skin ailments, toothache. Leaves dried under shade smoked vs. asthma. Leaf powder in small quantities internally vs. round worms. [zzzub] Pakistan, Sialkot province, roasted leaves in mustard oil applied vs. chronic scabies and other skin ailments. Leaves, fruits and roots vs. headache, severe body pain, malarial fever and convulsion. Plant is laxative, purgative, anthelmintic and vs. leprosy, leucoderma, ulcers, tumors and piles, diseases of spleen, the liver and abdomen. [zzztb]

Pakistan, Mohmand Agency, dried, powdered roots vs. snakebite. Latex vs. abdominal pain and lice. [zzzwx] Pakistan, Sindh/Balochistan, coastal areas, warmed, lightly-oiled leaves applied three times per day vs. pain, especially for chest amd ribs. Decoction of root with black pepper two or three times per day vs. malarial fever. Two drops of latex in a decoction of *Convolvulus glomeratus* whole plant, only two spoonfuls orally as a laxative. [zzziv]

Iran. Wide range of medicinal uses. [rrrgn] Pakistan, Afghan refugees. Leaves, medicinal uses including vs. snake bite, diabetes, seborrheic keratosis and as antidotes and to remove thorns. Stem juice vs. bleeding. [rrrgo]

Pakistan, southern Balochistan, thick paste of plant ash with warm water applied for 15 minutes to remove hair, especially from armpits and pubic area. The hair is then easily scraped off with a wooden blade. [zzzcq] Yemen. Dried latex to remove hair for cosmetic reasons. Dhofar, crushed leaves applied to hairy side of fresh skins to loosen the hair for preparation before tanning. [rrrbi] Sudan. Latex for hair removal in animals (from hides?). [zz15a]

China, bark vs. leprosy. Leaves vs. asthma. [zz141]

Saudi Arabia, Bedouin, considered poisonous and avoided by livestock. Sheep, goat or camel milk drunk from the halved, hollowed-out fresh fruit for medicinal reasons, possibly as a purgative. Small doses of latex used for medicinal reasons, vaguely described by the informants. Latex vs. galls and wounds in camels. [zzzwh] Southwest Saudi Arabia, leaf poultice vs. rheumatic pain, swelling. [zzzjz] Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: fresh latex applied to spines embedded in the skin to help remove them. Leaves heated over coal and held in armpit for systemic analgesia. [fffat] Saudi Arabia, Al-Rass province, latex vs. psoriasis, leishmaniasis and skin infections. [zzzsi]

Bahrain, root bark infusion as diaphoretic and emetic. [zzzjq] Oman, latex put around wound to draw out pus, applied vs. scorpion sting. Leaves with clove oil, *Terminalia catappa* (Combretaceae) fruit and *Nigella sativa* (Ranunculaceae) seed, heated and rubbed on paralysed limb. [zzzkl] Northern Oman, heated leaves applied to oiled skin vs. pain.

Yemen, central Abyan governate, leaf latex applied vs. boils, scabies. Bark paste vs. vitiligo. [zzznu] Yemen, dried leaves and new twigs, decoction vs. difficult breathing. [zzzwi] Yemen, Hajjah district, one drop of latex applied to painful tooth to remove it or relieve pain. [zzzqv] Socotra. Latex dripped into painful tooth or applied to a scrap of cloth and wedged into tooth. [rrrbd]

Dhofar, many medicinal uses. Some applied the latex vs. skin complaints like boils, infected wounds, eczema, impetigo, shingles, roundworm and infected flea bites - but others advised against it because of the risk of the caustic effects resulting in ulcers. Leaf lightly singed in fire, strapped to chest vs. chest and lung pain. [rrrbi] Dhofar, latex painted on to parasitic skin infections in livestock. [rrrbi]

Sudan. Latex used in robbery and monkey hunting. In slaves, latex on cotton wool or stem inserted into vagina to induce abortion. Latex applied to thorn injuries to promote healing. Powdered leaves orally with animal fat vs. asthma, applied externally vs. rheumatism. Plant vs. eye infection, jaundice, ringworm, skin disease, gonorrhoea. Sugar source? Wadi Halfa. Stem as necklace to protect children against diphtheria. Poison to kill children and adults. Arrow poison vs. elephants. Latex rectally vs. gonorrhoea. Diuretic, laxative, purgative and vs. scorpion sting. Fruit as amulet for fertility, because of the plant dispersing widely and growing anywhere, however dry. [zz15a] Sudan, South Kordofan, Algoz, stem latex rubbed in vs. scorpion sting. [zzzof] Tanzania. Root vs. snake bite. [rrrbc]

Egypt, upper Nile Valley, one drop of latex placed on a bad tooth needing to be removed would cause the pain and tooth to disappear. Nubians use the latex for loosening teeth that are difficult to pull, also for loosening thorns and spines lodged in the skin. Necklace of young shoots vs. a throat disease in children. Kharga, latex in the eye would cause blindness, had been used to avoid conscription in the army. Kharga and Dhakla Oases, branches placed with barley and onions above doorways to repel scorpions, reptiles and venomous insects. Prevented laziness in family. Kharga and Dhakla Oases. Dried leaves smoked vs, asthma. [zzzkt] Egypt, Eastern Desert, Khushmaan. Latex applied vs. itching. Immediate blindness if placed in eyes. Bischarin people. Latex causes blisters. [rrrbh]

Ethiopia, Benishangul-Gumuz regional state, Berta, fresh latex vs. scorpion sting. [zzzfu] Ethiopia, Bahirdar Zuria district, leaf latex applied to scorpion sting and snakebite. Small amounts of fresh latex applied vs. warts. [zzzwl] Ethiopia. Afar regional state, Yalo Woreda leaves, nasal vs. herpes zoster. nasal and topical vs. breast swelling. Flower bud and leaf oral and nasal vs. typhoid. Flower orally vs. indigestion. Bark oral and mouthwash vs. mouth infection. In cattle, young plant oral and nasal vs. black leg, stem and leaf oral vs. anthrax and leaf oral, nasal and body wash vs. mastitis and contagious agalactia (lack of milk). [zzzic] Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Minjar-Shenkora District, 3 to 5 drops of latex applied vs. haemorrhoids until recovery. [zzzid. zzzie] Latex collected on clean cotton, 1 to 3 drops in tea with sugar vs. acute stomachache. Leaf heated by burning charcoal and applied topically vs. body swelling. [zzzie] Ethiopia, South Welo (Wollo), Cheffa Area, poisonous latex rubbed externally vs. sores and wounds. [zzzmw] Ethiopia, Menz Keya Gebreal District. Latex applied vs. leishmaniasis and wounds. [rrrhw]

Northern Kenya, Pokot & Turkana, medicinal/domestic use, not food. Marakwet: medicinal use. [zzzwm] Kenya, Marakwet, leaf ash as emetic. [zzztl]

Morocco, Tafilalet, leaf tea or latex diluted orally vs. stomachache, food poisoning, worms. Leaf tea vs. asthma, cough. Leaf or latex applied vs. skin parasites, latex vs. furuncles and verrucas. Powdered branches vs. wounds. [zzzeu] Morocco, Tata Province, root decoction applied vs. wounds, cough. Root decoction orally vs. tonsillitis, jaundice, dysentery and worms. Raw latex applied vs. warts, boils. Diluted latex orally to provoke abortion. Root, leaf powder externally vs. dermatitis. Leaf powder externally vs. asthma, epilepsy. Leaf poultice vs. stomach pains. Leaf smoke inhaled vs. asthma, cough and worms. Leaf infusion orally vs. constipation, fever. Leaf powder orally vs. syphilis, rheumatism and skin parasites. [zzziu]

Western Sahara, Sahrawi refugees. Stem ash as antiseptic and cicatrisant for wounds. Leaf powder added to henna leaf powder to darken the colour produced by the hair dye. [zzzoa]

Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer, root decoction externally vs. skin diseases, dermatosis, infected sores and syphilis. Root decoction internally vs. respiratory diseases (cough, tonsillitis). Root bark decoction internally vs. jaundice, worms, bilharzia and dysentery. Fresh leaf infusion internally vs. worms, constipation, fever. Fresh leaf poultice vs. rheumatism, syphilis. Dried leaf inhaled vs. asthma, epilepsy and pains. Flower infusion internally as tonic. Latex powder internally as abortive. Latex powder externally vs. piles and infected wounds. Latex powder externally vs. scabies in camels. [zzzsb]

Libya, Northeast. Unnamed part vs. abscess and rheumatics. [rrrgz]

Nigeria, Katsina State, oral flower buds vs. low libido. [zzzrx] Southern Senegal, Adeane, leaf vs. malaria, fatigue. Leaf applied to the affected part vs. headache, sore neck and sore knees. Leaf juice applied vs. toothache. Root with basil vs. rheumatism. Leaf? with Mànganaso (unidentified) and *Jatropha curcas* vs. syphilis and yellow fever. In yellow fever the patient would "vomit everything yellow". Root cut into small pieces, squeezed in a cotton handkerchief and the aroma inhaled vs. sinusitis. Stem juice applied vs. wounds. [zzzxg] Nigeria, Kano North senatorial district, leaf vs. scorpion sting and finger ache/inflammation. [zzzxf] Central Nigeria, razor blade dipped in fresh latex from any part of the plant used to make seven cuts at the site vs. snakebite or scorpion sting. Four to six dried leaves ground, mixed with teaspoonful of shea butter and some water, commonly taken orally as an expectorant. [zzzkn] Mali, Adrar des Iforas, latex vs. wounds, ulcers but dangerous to eyes and mucous membranes. [zzzez] Benin, Allada plateau, maceration of leaves drunk vs. headaches. [zzzha] Northern Côte d'Ivoire, leaves used vs. stomach pain and cold in cattle. Ground leaves added to water and lemon, dose 0.5 litres daily.[zzzaz] Bahamas, leaves tied onto forehead or back of head vs. headaches. [zzzkv]

In 1835 *Calotropis procera* was lauded by British doctors as the most powerful alterative medicine known. The plant or its preparations vs. fits of all kind (epileptic, spasmodic or paralytic), locked jaw, cold sweats, leprosy, sprains, bruises, venomous bites, venereal complaints (including syphilis) and skin eruptions. Used in India to cause abortion. Deobstruent and sudorific. Should not be used in inflammations or pustular eruptions. The root bark is gathered in March, April or May.

> "It causes a sense of heat in the stomach, which rapidly pervades every part of the system, and produces a titillating [tingling? stimulating? irritating?] feel upon the skin, from the renewed circulation to the extreme vessels."

In 1841, caustic latex, drastically purgative. India, used externally vs. skin diseases. [rrrhg]

Calotropis gigantea was found to be lacking in those medicinal actions of the "true Mudar" *Calotropis procera*. [zzzbd] Should not be given in doses above 3-5 grains (200-325 mg) as it then becomes emetic. Full recovery from severe ulcers down to bone were reported.

"The world at large is deeply indebted to Mr Playfair for the discovery of the most valuable medicine hitherto derived from the vegetable kingdom." [zzzbe]

An insect from the plant is powdered, mixed with the same amount of pepper and snuffed vs. epilepsy. [zzzam] India, Jharkand, Panch Pargana area, the Vaidyas of the Taimara and Dasham use the caterpillar of *Danaus chrysippus* feeding on the leaves of *Calotropis procera* vs. epilepsy. The caterpillar is called "Akwan Pillu". One larva per tablespoonful of mustard oil is fried, then filtered and given as nasal drops. In English, called the Plain Tiger or African Monarch (it has a wide range). It is a Milkweed butterfly, related to the famous Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*) that migrates in massive numbers between Mexico and Canada every year and whose caterpillars feed on a wide range of asclepiads - including *Calotropis procera* in California and Florida, where it has been introduced. [zzzal]

Pakistan, Afghan refugees. Wide range of veterinary medicinal uses. In one case, the "aak grasshopper" (*Poekilocerus pictus*) is dried, powdered and placed in the noses of cattle and buffalo to kill parasitic brain worms. [rrrgo] These colourful grasshoppers sequester the heart toxins from *Calotropis* for self-defence. [rrrgp]

India, Roxburgh described *Calotropis procera* charcoal being used for gunpowder in 1832. [zzzcc]

Saudi Arabia, Mandaville reported that the wood was used to produce charcoal for homemade gunpowder in the early 20th century. The wood is low-density, fine textured and porous, easily ground to give a charcoal with a high surface area. This would burn quickly and dependably. The necessary saltpetre and sulphur were also found locally "from the ground". [zzzwh]

Egypt, Eastern Desert, Khushmaan. Formerly charcoal from this plant used in Ma'aza gunpowder. Ma'aza is the tribe that had moved in from northwestern Arabia, of which the Khushmaan are one clan. [rrrbh]

Algeria, Central Sahara. René Maire reported that in 1933 *Calotropis procera* charcoal was used for gunpowder at Tuat. The charcoal, powdered and mixed with butter, was also applied vs. mange in camels. [rrrhn][zz84]

Dhofar, ash mixed with powdered charcoal, dampened and impregnated into strips of cloth. After drying the brittle cloth was reduced to small granules. Used as a crude gunpowder called *bārūt* in Dhofari Arabic and Jibbali. Loaded into guns as it was or mixed with sulphur. [rrrbi]

East Africa, floss from seed pods used for stuffing pillows and cushions. Stem fibre formerly used for long, durable fishing lines but superseded by modern materials. [zzzky] Egypt, Eastern Desert, Bischarin. Silky seed fibres for stuffing pillows and camel saddle cushions. [rrrbh]

Dhofar. Underbark processed to produce a fibre of fine, short but very strong threads. This was used produce wicks for sardine or shark oil lamps. Used for sewing, ornamenting and patching leather articles such as pouches/wallets, water skins and milk containers. Threads used to remove warts and bad teeth. [rrrbi]

Sudan, Ethiopia. Latex reported used as fish poison. One of 12 fish poison species reported from Sudan and 17 from Ethiopia - from a diverse range of plant families. [rrrfj]

Egypt, Eastern Desert. Root used to make Bischarin headrest *mitir'as*. [rrrbh] Mali, Adrar des Iforas, the light wood used for splints, saddle pommels, milking bowls, tent pegs. Rubbed with the hard wood of *Maerua crassifolia* (Capparaceae) to make fire. Fibres for fine cords to prepare vellum. [zzzez]

Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), latex in arrow poison. [zzzfa]

In 1861 it was reported that hemp of the finest quality, very strong and silky, had been extracted from the plant. Handkerchiefs of fine quality had been made from it. [zzztk]

1.26% hydrocarbon/rubber by fresh weight. [zzzar]

On opening the bag of flowers for its photoshoot, a delightful fragrance issued from the contents. It was a deep, soft and pleasing floral fragrance with hints of mild tobacco. It smelt appetising but did not tempt me to try a tea, considering the aura of danger that seems to surround the genus *Calotropis*. [me]

***Caralluma* spp. {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**

William Roxburgh published the name *Stapelia adscendens* in 1795 and commented that the name in the Telugu language was "Car-allum". [zzzbz] The name *Caralluma* was given to a new genus and the species was renamed ***Caralluma adscendens*** by Robert Brown in a lecture in 1809. The lecture was published as an article in 1811, detailing his reasons for splitting the Apocynaceae into two families - the Apocynaceae and Asclepiadaceae. [zzztg]

For no good reason, other authors have hypothesised that the name could come from an Arabic phrase "qarh al-luhūm" or "qahr al-luhum" meaning flesh wound or abscess. According to Google Translate this would be قرحاللحم in Arabic script. This is said to refer to the stench of the fly-pollinated flowers. This suggestion is often repeated on the internet. The Wikipedia entry for *Caralluma* only had this explanation for at least 12 years. Helmut Genaust seems to have been responsible for this etymology when he published it in 1996.

It seems safe to disregard this as a modern folk etymology as Genaust gave no sources or references for his speculation. Genaust also seemed to be unaware that the genus *Caralluma* existed east of Palestine. He specifically ruled out its existence in India, where it was first described and named. Genaust presumed that the name would have first been applied to ***Apteranthes europaea*** in North Africa. [zzzth]

The commonest Tamil name for the genus *Caralluma* in the widest sense (including species now considered to be ***Apteranthes*** and ***Boucerosia***) is "kallimulaiyan" or "kallimulliyan". The name "kalli" is used for the common succulent Euphorbias that have a similar appearance to *Caralluma*. The meaning of "kallimulaiyan" is "that which resembles a *Euphorbia*". The meaning of "kallimulliyan" is "that which lives among *Euphorbia*". [zzztt]

In the south of Tamil Nadu names for the larger types of *Caralluma* are often modified by the names of animals, "erumai" (= buffalo) or "madd-" (= cow). The smaller ***Boucerosia indica*** types are modified with "koli" (= fowl), "musal" (= hare) and "chitt-" (= small). [zzztt]

At Sankaridrug (Tamil Nadu, Salem district) the general name was "kilivan". [zzztt] In Pudukkottai and surrounding districts in Tamil Nadu the name was "eluman", meaning "little deer". In Madurai and Tinnevelly (modern Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts) the name was "siruman", meaning "small deer". The plant was said to give the agility of a young deer. Tamil Nadu, Madurai, the species like ***Caralluma adscendens*** are called "panri eluman", meaning "pig little deer". [zzztt]

The Telugu general term for all of the *Caralluma* genus is "kundeti kommulu" or "kundelu kommulu" meaning "hare's horns" or "kundelu chevulu" meaning "hare's ears", presumably referring to the paired seed pods. The small plants like ***Boucerosia indica*** are called "eluka chevulu", meaning "rat ears". [zzztt]

Tamil Nadu, Anaimalai Hills and Pollachi, general name "iluvan". Large, inedible types called "malai iluvan", meaning hill *Caralluma*. Edible ones are called "pulichan", meaning "sour thing". [zzztt] Kerala, Palakkad, in Malayalam the species like ***Caralluma adscendens*** are called "pulicha thanda", meaning "sour stick". Karnataka, Ballari district, Hospet, in Kannada the species like ***Caralluma adscendens*** are called "hulichinta" meaning "tamarind-tamarind" in Kannada ("huli") and Telugu ("chinta"), possibly referring to the acidity of tamarind. [zzztt]

In the Ramnad or Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu, *Caralluma* is seen as similar to "pirandai" (*Cissus quadrangularis* L.,), a medicinal stem succulent grape relative. Therefore they are called "piruyam pirandai" or "sour pirandai". [zzztt] In the far south of Kerala and Tamil Nadu states the general name is "kallukutainchan" meaning "that which pierces rock". Types like ***Caralluma adscendens*** are called "chinna kallutainchan", meaning "small rock-piercer". Types like ***Boucerosia umbellata*** are called "peyi kallutainchan", meaning "devil rock-piercer". [zzztt]

At Thakkalai in the far south of Kerala, the large, inedible forms are called "paraikalli". meaning "rock *Euphorbia"*. Andhra Pradesh, Anantapur district, general term is "kalibanda", meaning "dweller among rocks", also used of *Aloes* and *Agaves* in other areas. [zzztt] India, Karnataka, hills just outside Narasapura toward Kolar, monsoon season - tender shoots of all species are eaten by locals. Called "Kundli Kami" in Telugu. Many of these will now be *Boucerosia*. [zzzog]

Kenya, several species have succulent, edible stems. [zz156] *Caralluma* cf. *arabica*, Arabic: "Ghalty", United Arab Emirates, "leaves" of young plants eaten. Milky latex used medicinally. [zz243]

Used vs. syphilis in Zimbabwe and Malawi. [zz95]

A variety of compounds classified as steroids have been found in many species of *Caralluma* and the many, many species that used to be in the genus. Most of the compounds are variations on the pregnane glycoside structure. These may be associated with the traditional medicinal uses reported for so many of these plants. [zzzte] There are many other types of steroids found in other asclepiads.

There are 30 accepted species left in the genus *Caralluma* currently, according to POWO. [zzzrh] Genera that had one or more species included in *Caralluma* at some time in the past include: ***Apteranthes***, ***Australluma***, ***Boucerosia***, ***Caudanthera***, ***Desmidorchis***, ***Duvaliandra***, ***Echidnopsis***, ***Monolluma***, *Notechidnopsis*, ***Orbea***, ***Pectinaria***, ***Piaranthus***, ***Pseudolithos***, ***Quaqua***, ***Rhytidocaulon***, ***Stapelia***, *Tromotriche* and ***White-sloanea***.

Caralluma acutangula see ***Desmidorchis retrospiciens***

***Caralluma adscendens* R.Br.**
Also reported as *Stapelia adscendens* and *Asclepias oleracea*. See also ***Caralluma dalzielii*** and ***Caralluma subulata.***

India, Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Shindal makad". [rrrat]
Andhra Pradesh: "kundetikommulu". [zz187]
"kundaeti kommulu". [zzzsg]
Puttaparthi Mandal: "Kundelu kommulu". [rrrbb]
South Odisha: "Hada-sinkula". [zzzqu]
Telugu: "Karallamu",
"Taviti chettu", [zz187]
"Car-allum". [zzzbz]
Karnataka, country around Dharwad: "Makur Singee" (= monkey's horn). [zzzxp]
Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Eluvan". [zzztf]
Salem District, Vanavasi Hill: "Kallimulayan". [zzzqw]

Patrick Russell collected plants on behalf of the British in India from 1781 to 1789. On one of his herbarium sheets, a dried, pressed specimen of *Caralluma adscendens* was labelled "*Asclepias oleracea*". In Latin *oleracea* means "like a green vegetable". It is often used as the specific part in the botanical names of plants that are commonly eaten such as *Brassica oleracea* (cabbage/broccoli/cauliflower/kale /Brussels sprouts/kohl rabi etc.), *Portulaca oleracea* (purslane) and *Spinacia oleracea* (spinach). [zzzxq, zzzxr]

India, Andhra Pradesh, in 1795 Roxburgh published a description, as *Stapelia adscendens*, including:

> "The natives eat raw the most succulent tender branches, although they are bitter and salt to the taste ." [zzzbz]

India, hills east of Ahmednagar, eaten as a vegetable (in 1839). [zzzxp] India, Andhra Pradesh, stems used as chutney. Reported in 2010. [zzzsg] India, Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Stem/shoots eaten raw or cooked as a vegetable. [rrrat] India, tender shoots cooked as vegetable. [zz76] Maharashtra, young stems used as vegetable. [zzzpk] India, Karnataka, edible. [zzztm]

India, Telangana, Wanaparthy, Tirumalaiah Gutta Sacred Grove, stem eaten raw or as chutney. [zzzqs] India, South Odisha, fresh stems eaten raw in all seasons. [zzzqu]

India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, sliced stem with salt eaten vs. urinary problems. [zzztf] India, Tamil Nadu, Salem District, Vanavasi Hill, latex applied vs. warts and bites. Stem used vs. chest, heart and obesity problems. [zzzqw]

India, Andhra Pradesh, 2-3 inches of stem crushed, with pepper, ginger and salt twice per day for two days vs. coughs. [zz187] India, Andhra Pradesh, used vs. chest pain and general weakness. [zzzsg] India, Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Herb vs. inflammation. [rrrbb]

Caralluma adscendens var. *attenuata* see ***Caralluma attenuata***

***Caralluma adscendens* var. *bicolor* (V.S.Ramach., S.Joseph, H.A.John & Sofiya) Karupp., Ugraiah & Pull.**
Reported as *Caralluma bicolor.*

India, Malayalam: "Bokkal". [zz80, zzztu]
Tamil Nadu, Karamadai Range, Nellithurai Beat, Irulas tribes: "Kattalae". [zzzul]

India, Kerala, Attapaddy Hills: whole plant eaten as a vegetable. [zzztu]

India, Tamil Nadu, Karamadai Range of Western Ghats, Nellithurai Beat, Irulas tribes, shoot for wound healing. [zzzul]

Caralluma adscendens var. *fimbriata* see ***Caralluma fimbriata***

Caralluma arabica see ***Desmidorchis arabica***

***Caralluma arachnoidea* var. *breviloba* (P.R.O.Bally) M.G.Gilbert**
Northern Kenya, Pokot: "amanyan-pochepkono",
"mamauti". [zzzwm]

Northern Kenya, Pokot, domestic use (not medicinal nor food). [zzzwm]

***Caralluma attenuata* Wight**
Also reported as *Caralluma adscendens* var. *attenuata*.

India, Maharashtra: "Makadsing",
"Vinjaracha Bhaji". [zzzpk]
Tamil Nadu, Palliyars: "Periyasirumankeerai". [zzzqr]

Maharashtra, young stems used as vegetable. [zzzpk] India, Tamil Nadu, Palliyars, stem eaten. [zzzqr] India, Andhra Pradesh. Stem edible. Stem-paste with pepper vs. cough. [zzzsy]

3.4% hydrocarbon/rubber. [zzzaq]

Caralluma aucheriana see ***Desmidorchis aucheriana***

Caralluma awdeliana see ***Desmidorchis awdeliana***

Caralluma bicolor see ***Caralluma adscendens var. bicolor***

Caralluma burchardii see ***Apteranthes burchardii***

Caralluma dalzielii **N.E. Br.**
Only found in Africa. Regarded by some as the same species as ***Caralluma adscendens*** (purely Indian) or ***Caralluma subulata*** (purely Arabian), which have their own entries here.

Burkina Faso, Baskoure: "rumkim suuga". [zz165]
Mali, Dogonland: (tomoso dialect) "sukulaga". [zz108]
Nigeria,
Kaduna State: "Karan masallaci". [zzzqt]
Hausa: "Karan Massallachi" (= mosque stalk, it grows by prayer houses). [zzzuc]
"karan masallachi" (literally "mosque reed") [zz59]
Dahomey, Pila-Pila: "nenoch". [zz59]
Gando: "wutsiyar damo" ("monitor's tail" from the look of the shoots). [zz59]
Fulani: "gubehi". [zz59]

In Dahomey it is planted as a fetish in yam fields, etc. Sometimes planted at praying grounds, etc. as a charm against evil. Grows easily from cuttings. The stems are crushed and eaten raw as a tonic and stimulant. The plant is used against faintness while fasting, pain in the chest and epigastric region. [zz59] Liquid from heated stem applied for otitis in Mali [zz108] and Burkina Faso and applied to teeth to treat caries. [zz195]

Antispasmodic, analgesic. Bandiagara Region of Mali, stems ground and eaten raw as tonic and vs. bodily exhaustion and heart problems. Latex vs. suppurating wounds. [zz64] In Burkina Faso a maceration of the tubercle is used vs. urinary retention, otitis, asthma, malaria, hernia and as a tonic for elder people. [zz165]

Nigeria, tonic, aphrodisiac, analgesic and antiemetic. Pregnane glycosides present in both Malian and Nigerian varieties but different types in each. [zz174]

Niger, Hausa apply the latex to wounds to disinfect and heal. Crushed aerial parts together with the leaves of *Ozoroa insignis* (Anacardiaceae) are taken by children vs. coughs. Latex vs. bites and stings of venomous animals including spiders, ants, scorpions and snakes. A decoction of the stems is given to stop vomiting and to treat epilepsy. [zz195]

Nigeria, Hausa, aerial parts (sometimes the whole plant) vs. male and female infertility, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, leprosy, snake and scorpion bites and severe pains in the epigastrium. Aerial parts are usually crushed using mortar and pestle, juice swallowed, directly instilled into the ear or used topically to treat inflammation. Decoction or maceration of aerial parts as tea once or twice daily vs. infertility. Also used vs. faintness due to fasting, convulsion, emesis, paralysis, otitis and as aphrodisiac. [zzzuc, zzzud]

Nigeria, Kaduna State, whole plant ground in water and squeezed. Small amount of liquid taken daily vs. depression. [zzzqt]

All [zz195] data are given as *Caralluma adscendens* but are clearly of the West African variety. Western Sahara, Moors said to make a strong poison by macerating the crushed stems in sheep urine. [zz195] This could be confusion with a different species, either ***Desmidorchis retrospiciens*** or ***Orbea decaisneana***. Both of those species have been reported as highly toxic.

Caralluma decaisneana see ***Orbea decaisneana***

Caralluma deflersiana see ***Orbea deflersiana***

***Caralluma dicapuae* (Chiov.) Chiov.**
Kenya, Turkana: "Lochen".

Kenya, Turkana, used in placing curses. [zz159]

Caralluma diffusa see ***Boucerosia diffusa***

Caralluma dioscoridis see ***Duvaliandra dioscoridis***

Caralluma dummeri see ***Orbea dummeri***

Caralluma edulis (Edgew.) Benth. ex Hook.f. see ***Caudanthera edulis***
Caralluma edulis A.Chev. ex Hutch. & Dalziel see ***Caralluma mouretii***

Caralluma elata see ***Caralluma priogonium***

Caralluma europaea see ***Apteranthes europaea***

***Caralluma fimbriata* Wall.**
Also reported as *Caralluma adscendens var. fimbriata.*

India, Sanskrit: "Yugmaphallottama". [zzzds, zz80]
Tamil: "Kullee Mooliyan",
"Kallimudayan", [zz80]
"Mankalli". [zzzds]
Marathi: "mākaḍa śiṅga" (= monkey horn),
"Makad Shing". [zz80]
Maharashtra: "Makadsing",
"Vinjaracha Bhaji". [zzzpk]
Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil: "Makaadsing",
"Shindamakad". [zzzou]
Rahuri Taluka: "Ranshabar",
Nasik & Ahmednagar districts: "Shindala makadi" [zz76] (= "unchaste monkey"). See ***Boucerosia frerei***.
Poona & Satara districts: "Makad shenguli". [zz76]
Satara District: "Shenguli". [zzzoe]
Kannada: "maakada singi",
"mangana kodu",
Telugu: "kaarallamu",
"kundelu kommulu" [zz80],
"pulambari". [zzzff]

Myanmar, central dry zone, cultivated under shade as a vegetable, propagated from cuttings. Widely sold in markets. Said to be good for heart ailments. [zzzow]

The plant has been eaten raw, curried and pickled. [zz21a, zz80] India, Rajasthan: whole plant boiled in water and mixed with salt and chili peppers, if available. [zz76] Part of the regular diet of locals in Southern India. [zz209] The plant may contain 88% water by weight. [zz133] India, Karnataka, edible. [zzztm]

India, Maharashtra, Satara District, stem eaten raw. [zzzoe] Maharashtra, Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil, shoots eaten raw or cooked. [zzzou] Maharashtra, young stems used as vegetable. [zzzpk] India, Andhra Pradesh. Tender shoots edible. [zzzsy]

India, twin pods a favourite vegetable. [zzzff] India, Deccan: green follicles eaten. [zz76]

India, bruised fresh plant added to stale toddy (a fermented and alcoholic palm beverage that must be drunk fresh as it has a very short shelf-life) to give it the smell and appearance of freshly-drawn toddy. Even the experienced may be fooled by toddy that is several days old. [zzzff]

India, Tamil Nadu, Tiruchirappalli District, Pachamalai Hills, stem vs. diabetes and dandruff, as blood purifier. [zzzuk]

Used medicinally vs. diabetes, pain, fever, inflammation and as an appetite suppressant. [zz4a] Suppresses hunger, enhances endurance, famine food, thirst quencher. [zz133]

Juice of the plant with black pepper recommended in Andra Pradesh for the treatment of migraine. Chemical investigation revealed the presence of a flavone glycoside luteolin-4'-O-neohesperidoside, a potent anti-inflammatory more powerful by weight than ibuprofen but without painkilling action. [zz181]

India's answer to *Hoodia* diet pills, extracts are sold as "Slimaluma" and under many other brand names. More claims are being made for Slimaluma, including memory improvement. [zz180] Showed small reductions in weight compared to control after 60 days in a study on 50 people, though the placebo group started with slightly less weight and lower Body Mass Index. The 100:1 extract had a remarkably low toxicity. [zz133] There are many more brands available in 2026, as can be seen from an online search for *Caralluma fimbriata*.

Caralluma flava see ***Desmidorchis flava***

Caralluma frerei see ***Boucerosia frerei***

Caralluma hesperidum see ***Orbea decaisneana***

Caralluma indica see ***Boucerosia indica***

Caralluma lasiantha see ***Boucerosia umbellata***

Caralluma luntii see ***Orbea luntii***

Caralluma mammillaris see ***Quaqua mammillaris***

Caralluma maroccana see ***Apteranthes europaea***

***Caralluma mouretii* A.Chev.**
Mauritania, Tidjikja: "Abouaïla". [rrrfn]
"Aboïla". [rrrfm]

Mauritania, Tidjikja. Auguste Jean Baptiste Chevalier published the species under the name *Caralluma edulis* in 1920 with no explanation of why he used a specific name "*edulis*" that means edible. The brief entry had no description of the plant but mentioned a herbarium specimen Monsieur Charles Nº 28733. [rrrfl] The name had to be changed later as there was already a plant called *Caralluma edulis*, which is now ***Caudanthera edulis***. However, *Caralluma mouretii* has now been included in *Caudanthera edulis* by Focke Albers and Ulrich Meve, [rrrfo] though POWO thinks that *Caudanthera edulis* is not found so far west in Africa. They still list *Caralluma mouretii* as a valid species [zzzrh], though, even to my inexpert eyes, the herbarium specimens seem to be in the genus *Caudanthera*. See ***Caudanthera edulis***. Chevalier republished the species under the name *Caralluma mouretii* in 1934 and included a description. [rrrfm]

Chevalier appeared to quote the notes on the 1911 herbarium specimen from Marcel Charles, including: "Plante comestible pour l'homme." - "Plant edible for Man". [rrrfm] Though the herbarium specimen just notes "Comestible". Chevalier stated the date as August and the location as Nouaguelmich though both are crossed out in the herbarium specimen and replaced with September and Tidjikja, respectively. [rrrfn]

> "Observation. — CHUDEAU, after having reported *Caralluma tombuctuensis* in his "Sudanese Sahara", wrote on p. 166 that there exists in the Adrar des Iforas and in Mauritania, a second species with a round stem, which lives in the same regions; "it is edible and the nomads look for it at the beginning of the rainy season; they call it *Abouila*." We believe this to be *Caralluma mouretii*.
> However, the name *Abouila* or *Abila* (Moorish) also designates a toxic species from Mauritania which we have reported above, with a little doubt, as *Caralluma decaisneana*."

In the original French:

> "Observation. — CHUDEAU, après avoir signalé dans son « Sahara soudanais » le *C. tombuctuensis*, écrit p. 166, qu'il existe dans l'Adrar des Iforas et en Mauritanie, une seconde espèce à tige ronde, qui vit dans les mêmes régions; « elle est comestible et les nomades la recherchent au début de la saison des pluies; ils l'appellent *Abouila*. » Nous pensons qu'il s'agit du *C. Mouretii*.
> Toutefois le nom *Abouila* ou *Abila* (maure) désigne aussi une espèce toxique de Mauritanie que nous avons rapportée plus haut avec doute à *C. Decaisneana*." [rrrfm]

Caralluma negevensis see ***Apteranthes europaea* var. *judaica***

Caralluma oxyacantha does not exist. It was erroneously listed in an ethnobotanical article [zzzta] next to actual species of *Caralluma*. The entry should have been for the safflower *Carthamus oxyacantha* M.Bieb. This is clear from the family being given as Compositae. Hopefully, no-one finds a new species of *Caralluma* with sharp spines and goes with the obvious way of naming it. I hope I have not left any embarrassing typos in.

Caralluma pauciflora see ***Boucerosia pauciflora***

Caralluma peckii **P.R.O.Bally**
Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District: "Hadama". [zzzjb]

Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, fresh or dried roots crushed and drunk vs. gonorrhoea. [zzzjb]

Caralluma penicillata see ***Desmidorchis penicillata***

Caralluma peschii see ***Australluma peschii***

Caralluma priogonium **K.Schum.**
Ethiopia, Southern Oromia, Borana Pastoralists: "matabuttoo". [zzzla]

Ethiopia, Southern Oromia, Borana Pastoralists, exudate vs. burns, wounds. [zzzla]

Caralluma procumbens see ***Boucerosia procumbens***

Caralluma quadrangula see ***Monolluma quadrangula***

Caralluma retrospiciens see ***Desmidorchis retrospiciens***

Caralluma rogersii see ***Orbea rogersii***

Caralluma russelliana see ***Desmidorchis retrospiciens***

Caralluma sarkariae **Lavranos & R.M.I.Frandsen**

India, south Western Ghats. Plant used as anti-inflammatory, expectorant, carminative, digestive, anti-stress and vs. stomachache, asthma, cancer, tumor, diabetes, rheumatism, paralysis, joints pains, fever, ulcer and obesity. [zzzws]

Caralluma shadhbana see ***Monolluma hexagona***

Caralluma sinaica see ***Caudanthera sinaica***

Caralluma socotrana see ***Monolluma socotrana***

Caralluma solenophora see ***Monolluma solenophora***

Caralluma somalica see ***Desmidorchis somalica***

Caralluma speciosa see ***Desmidorchis speciosa***

Caralluma stalagmifera **C.E.C.Fisch**

India, Karnataka, edible. [zzztm] India, Telangana, Wanaparthy, Tirumalaiah Gutta Sacred Grove, stem eaten raw or sometimes as chutney. [zzzqs]

Used in India vs. migraine. [zz21a] India

Caralluma subulata **(Forssk.) Decne.**
Regarded by some as = ***Caralluma adscendens*** and/or = ***Caralluma dalzielii*** which have their own entries here.

Southern Yemen: "Shawrer". [zzzpv]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, bitter. Used in Oman. [zzzpv]

Caralluma tombuctuensis see ***Desmidorchis retrospiciens***

Caralluma truncatocoronata see ***Boucerosia crenulata***

Caralluma tuberculata see ***Apteranthes tuberculata***

Caralluma tubiformis see ***Orbea tubiformis***

Caralluma umbellata see ***Boucerosia umbellata***

Caralluma venenosa see ***Orbea decaisneana***

Caudanthera edulis **(Edgew.) Meve & Liede {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**
Also reported as *Caralluma edulis* and *Boucerosia edulis*. See also ***Stapelia reflexa*** for a possible report from Afghanistan. See also ***Caralluma mouretii*** which, though found in Mauritania, may be the same species as this and is definitely in the genus *Caudanthera*.

Iran, Hormozgan province: "doghabis",
"howraghu". [zzzta]
Hormozgan and Baluchistan provinces: "Howtak"
"Apitak". [rrrhb]
Pakistan, "pippa",
"pippu",
"chaunga". [zz13a]
"Chounga". [zz8a]
Attock district: "choung". [zzztd]
Multan, "Situn". [zzzti]
Swat, Malam Jabba: "Pamankay". [zzzaw, zzztc]
Buner District, Chagharzai Valley: "Pamunkay". [zzzph]
India, Thar Desert: "pimpa" or
"pippa". [zzzqo]
Marathi: "pippa",
"pippu". [zz83]
Bengali: "Chung". [zz83]
Sanskrit: "dughda". [zz83]

Pakistan (as it is now), Punjab, Multan in 1862. Said to be:

> "edible, subacid, grows wild among *Salvadora* trees, there it is harvested to be sold in markets under the name *Situn*."

In the original Latin, reported as *Boucerosia edulis*:

> "Edulis, subacida, sponte in Salvadoretis crescit, ibi colligenda in foro venditur sub nomine *Situn*." [zzzti]

Consumed as food. [zz14a, zz83] Sold in markets and eaten raw or pickled. [zz21a] Eaten raw, fresh in the morning or cooked as a vegetable. Sold in markets and has potential to be introduced on a wider scale. Dried plant contains: 39.63% carbohydrate, 8.6% protein, 8.98% lipids, 18.4% fibre, 14.57% ash (minerals). Medicinally cooling, alterative, anthelmintic and vs. leprosy and diseases of the blood. [zz13a, zz83] Iran, Hormozgan province, used as a vegetable. [zzzta] India, twin pods a favourite vegetable. [zzzff] India, fresh stems are sold as a vegetable in local shops. [zz115] Pakistan, Salt Range, as vegetable. [zz8a] Pakistan, Swat, Malam Jabba, stem used heavily locally as a vegetable, sold in markets and exported to other areas. High market value due to its delicious taste and medicinal qualities. [zzztc] Pakistan, Buner District, Chagharzai Valley, collected from wild and used as vegetable. [zzzph]

Southern Punjab, in 1869 noted as sold in bazaars and used by the poorer class to add relish to starchy food. A "pleasant sub-acid taste" or "more salty and less bitter" than ***Apteranthes tuberculata***. [zzzsk] Northwest India, Thar Desert: important foodstuff, succulent stem eaten raw and cooked. [zzzqo]

Iran, Hormozgan and Baluchistan provinces. Edible when young. [rrrhb]

Medicinally cooling, alterative, anthelmintic and vs. leprosy and diseases of the blood. [zz13a, zz83]

Iran, Hormozgan province, succulent stem fresh vs. parasitic diseases. [zzzta]

Pakistan, Salt Range, juice vs. diabetes. Cut into small pieces, mixed with condiments and cooked as a vegetable for blood purification. [zz8a] Pakistan, Attock district, aerial parts as vegetable vs. diabetes. [zzztd] Pakistan, Swat, Malam Jabba, stem helps digestion, is anti-diabetic, stomachic and vs. fevers. [zzzaw, zzztc] Pakistan, Buner District, Chagharzai Valley, used vs. diabetes. [zzzph]

Northwest India, Thar Desert: important medicine. [zzzqo]

Taste test: 10cm flowering shoot from a six month old plant from seed under lights. Seed from Oman. Eaten an hour or so after the lights came on. Notably acidic, mildly bitter and very juicy. Tender and no stringiness. Very slender, 5mm at the widest, lowest part. An excellent snack - especially in hot weather, I should think. Fast-growing and easy under lights in pumice/zeolite at 22°C minimum. Flowered in 6 months and kept on flowering constantly. [me, 2025] 220g harvested from one plant. Everything above a few centimetres cut. Stir-fried in four tablespoonfuls of cold-pressed (not toasted) sesame oil until the colour lightened. Served on baked potatoes with a sprinkle of salt. Quite tart, a little bitter but easy to eat. Not fibrous at all. Very tasty, a satisfying simple meal. [me, 2026]

***Caudanthera sinaica* (Decne.) Plowes**
Reported as *Caralluma sinaica.*

Saudi Arabia: Asir Region, chewed to control diabetes. Showed some effect on a diabetes model in rabbits. [zz85] Saudi Arabia, commonly used, sold in local markets. Aphrodisiac, vs. diabetes, cancer. [zzzgf]

***Ceropegia* spp. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

The name of the genus was published in 1737 by Linnæus from the Greek word Κηροπήγιον, (*Keropegion*) meaning "candelabrum" or "candlestick". The first species named was ***Ceropegia candelabrum***. Linnæus did not explain his thinking. In the 19th century, some scholars with, presumably, less comprehensive Greek dictionaries stated it was from κηρός, “wax”, and πηγή, a “fountain”. This origin of the word *Ceropegia* as “wax-fountain” is still circulating widely. [rrrby]

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In 2017, Peter V. Bruyns, Cornelia Klak and Pavel Hanáček published a huge article on the phylogeny of Ceropegieae, having tested the genes of many plants to see how the species and genera are related to each other. They came to the conclusion that *Brachystelma* and all of the stapeliads were part of the genus *Ceropegia*. [rrrbv]

In 2018, a treatment of the entire family Apocynaceae included sections authored by Sigrid Liede-Schumann and Ulrich Meve of keys to the genera of the Periplocoideae, Secamonoideae and Asclepiadoideae. [rrrbv] They accepted that *Brachystelma* was best lumped in the genus *Ceropegia*. However, they republished all of the current genera of the stapeliads as valid genera - not sections of *Ceropegia*, so giving priority to those names as the most recently published version.

Though the book is hidden behind a paywall by its publisher Springer - so has not been read by many people other than academics - this publication allows taxonomists and gardeners to ignore the many new names that Bruyns coined for stapeliads as *Ceropegia*. Liede-Schumann and Meve gave a brief explanatory paragraph at the end of the entry for the genus *Ceropegia*:

> "*Ceropegia* has been found to be paraphyletic without *Brachystelma* and without the Stapeliads (Meve and Liede-Schumann 2007; Surveswaran et al. 2009; Bruyns et al. 2015). While the inclusion of *Brachystelma* seems to be justified, considering growth form/habit and the multiple switches between pitfall and open flowers, the suggestion by Bruyns et al. (2017) to include all Stapeliinae in Ceropegia is not followed here." [rrrbv]

Bruyns and his collaborators have since mischievously named three species of stapeliad, two new and one revived.

In 2020:

Ceropegia buraoensis that should be *Echidnopsis buraoensis.*

Ceropegia marronina that should be *Orbea marronina.* [rrrbx]

In 2025:

Ceropegia kochii that should be *Orbea kochii,* published as *Caralluma kochii*. [rrrbw]

POWO have kept the old name *Caralluma kochii* as a synonym of *Orbea sacculata* and have not listed *Ceropegia kochii* at all, even in synonyms. *Ceropegia buraoensis* and *Ceropegia marronina* have been listed on POWO without any synonyms. They can't have those synonyms or be corrected to *Echidnopsis* or *Orbea* until they are published with those names. [zzzrh] Luckily, these have no uses noted, so I can ignore them. For now, if someone does a simple search on many databases that should be up-to-date for the species of *Echidnopsis* or *Orbea*, they will come up one short on each.

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Dalziel claimed that no West Tropical African species were recognised as edible but several from Abyssinia and Upper Nile Land were. He then gave the Malinke name "fouyé" for undetermined species with edible tubers. Cooked they are said to taste like Jerusalem artichoke. As far as I can tell, Malinke/Maninka is only spoke in West Africa. [zz59]

Socotra. Unnamed species less liked as food than ***Ceropegia affinis*** as it is astringent, called "riyebih di taytin" = "sheep's Ceropegia". [rrrbd]

Uganda, So. Unidentified species "sím íD" = "milk vine". Rarely used as a vegetable. Sticks for cleaning. [zz97]

A Canarian sp. "cardoncillo" or "dedos de santo" (saint's fingers), stem juice vs. wounds. Used for tanning. [zz60]

Swaziland. Tubers of all species believed to be edible. A famine food. [zz144]

Northern Botswana, Shorobe Village, "Serowa", roots eaten as snack, source of water. Available October to March. [zzzig] S. Africa, "Serowa" (also used of *Brachystelma* spp.), all discoid spp. edible. [zz92]

Ethiopia, an unidentified species called "shabina" in Ari. Leaves and tender parts chopped and boiled. Eaten when greens from cabbage and *Moringa oleifera* (Moringaceae) are scarce. Appreciated for its similar taste to *Moringa*. Not cultivated. [zzzna]

East Kenya, Sumburu district, Suiei Dorobo: "langodai" *Ceropegia* sp. cf. *euryacme* Huber. and "nkerioi" *Ceropegia* cf. *stenantha* K. Schum. root eaten raw in the rainy season and early dry season. Leaves of "nkaramirami" and "nkirioyo" eaten raw in the rainy season and early dry season. [zz7a]

Northern Kenya, Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo: "langarboi" *Cynanchum* sp. fruit eaten and "nkerioi" *Ceropegia* cf. *stenantha* K. Schum. tuber eaten. Leaf/stem of "ngalamilami" and "ngiryoyo" eaten. [rrras]

The reference [zz7a] has disappeared off the internet and may have been unreliable. Samburu County is in the north and slightly west of centre in Kenya. Matthews Range is in Samburu County. All the plants listed are also listed by reference [rrras], as that is clearly confusion between *Ceropegia* and *Cynanchum*, which followed *Ceropegia* in the list.

Northern Kenya, Pokot, unidentified species of *Ceropegia*, one called "brada" used as food and another called "munturul" as food and medicine. [zzzwm]

Tanzania, leaf eaten by chimpanzees. [zz246]

Species previously known as *Brachystelma*:

> Namibia and S. Angola, Ovambo: "naluhoni". [zz62]
>
> Swaziland. Tubers of all species believed to be edible. A famine food. [zz144]
>
> Lesotho, "Kalakankisi", regularly sought after as vegetable food supplements, eaten raw or cooked. snack for herdboys. [zz65]

***Ceropegia abyssinica* Decne.**
One report as *Ceropegia steudneri*.

Ethiopia: "Merokoua". [zzzwf]
Schahagenne: "Merrogoa". [zzznv]

Ethiopia, Tigray, the tubers are the size of a small walnut and are eaten. [zzzwf] Ethiopia, Schahagenne. Reported by Wilhelm Vatke from notes on a herbarium specimen from Wilhelm Georg Schimper (see ***Ceropegia ringens*** for some biographical details) collected on the 15th of September 1862 that the tuber and leaf were eaten raw by shepherds.

In the original Latin:

> "bulbi et folia cruda a pastoribus eduntur." [zzznv]

***Ceropegia affinis* Vatke**
Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "riyebih" (= (prostrate with exhaustion"), plural: "riyib",
Also used for ***Cynanchum socotranum***.
"halawhin",
" 'ergilo". [rrrbd] See also ***Ceropegia tihamana***.

Socotra. Every part of the plant is edible raw. Unnamed part (all parts?) have a sweet flavour when young and a pleasantly lemon taste when more mature. Best in early winter. Common. Reduces suffering from thirst when eaten. [rrrbd]

***Ceropegia albisepta* Jum. & H.Perrier**
Reported as *Ceropegia viridis*.

Malagasy: "kodritsy" (= war-drum call). [zzzrd]

Madagascar, though usually not used, the tuber was eaten after special preparation in times of war or famine. [zzzrd]

Ceropegia ananthapuramense (K.Prasad, A.Naray. & Meve) Kottaim.

India, Andhra Pradesh, Deccan Plateau, Ananthapuramu, tubers are edible. [zzzxs]

***Ceropegia arabica* var. *powysii* (D.V. Field) Meve & Mangelsdorff**
Or *Ceropegia powysii* D.V. Field

In my first version of these notes, I assumed DV Field was referring to this species as being eaten. Having re-read the article, I now think he was referring to the tubers of ***Ceropegia subaphylla***. Please see that entry. [zz71]

Ceropegia aristolochioides* Decne. subsp. *aristolochioides
Ethiopia, Tigrinia: "schamigge",
Somali: "mororo". [zz78]
Chad, N'Djamena (as Fort-Lamy): "shader-t'en-debib". [zzznm]

This species has fibrous roots and does not have tubers so some of the reports may have been from misidentified plants or confusion over the parts used or appearance.

Tubers eaten in Ethiopia. [zz78] Senegal and Ethiopia, tuber is cooked and eaten. [zz200]

Somalia, Mororo, in 1904 the plant collector Henri Neuville noted on the herbarium sheet: "edible for the Somalis", in the original French: "comestible pour les Somalis" [zzznn]

Niger, decoction of aerial parts is applied to treat itchy skin eruptions. [zz200]

Chad, N'Djamena, in 1938 the plant collector Paul Creac'h noted on the herbarium sheet: "Medicine against snake." In the original French: "Le médicament contre le serpent." [zzznm]

***Ceropegia arnotii* (Baker) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma arnotii.*

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "|'áúdohmtsxànà". [zzzsq]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi. Potato-like tuber eaten raw or roasted in hot ash. As with most *Brachystelma* species, the bitter skin is usually removed. Shallow roots, easily dug up. [zzzsq] Grows in Namibia, Botswana and South Africa. The large tuber, up to 60cm (2 feet) in diameter is eaten raw or cooked. The bitter skin is usually removed. [zzzxs] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

***Ceropegia attenuata* Hook.**
India, Marathi: "Sada Khantudi". [zz80]
Western Ghats: "Tilori". [zzzcx]
Maharashtra: "Tilori",
"Kaper halda". [zzzpk]
Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Kharpudi". [rrrat]

Maharashtra and Karnataka, India, tubers eaten as food. [zz173] Western Ghats, tubers edible. Easy to grow in gardens. [zzzcx] Maharashtra, tuber edible. [zzzpk] Northern Western Ghats, locals harvest the tubers from forests and also grow them for food. [zzzsa] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat]

Ceropegia barberae **(Harv. ex Hook.f.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma barberiae* or *Brachystelma barberae.*

Isomo River valleys, possibly the Tsomo River in the Eastern Cape. In 1866, John Dalton Hooker recorded in the first description of this species that "The genus *Brachystelma* is a rather large South-African one; the species grow in dry places, and form tuberous roots that are eaten by the natives." So the information may not be specific to this species. Also "*Root* a depressed tuber, as large as a turnip.". [rrrbn] S. Africa. Tubers eaten in rural areas. Eaten daily by and a source of water for traditional San people. [zz211] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

S. Africa. Tubers relished by porcupines, baboons, rodents and certain insects. [zz211]

Ceropegia bonafouxii **K.Schum.**

Angola, Moçâmedes. On an 1895 herbarium sheet later identified as this species, the collector Berthelot noted "edible plant", in the original French "plante comestible". [zzznl]

Angola, Benguela, in the first description of the species by Karl Schumann in 1903, he noted, apparently from a herbarium specimen collected by Eugène Dekindt: “(Dekindt n. 42 the tubers are edible, according to the natives).”

In the original German:

> “(Dekindt n. 42 die Knollen sind essbar, entheha der Eingeborenen).” [zzznk]

Ceropegia botrys see ***Ceropegia subaphylla***

Ceropegia brevipedicellata **(Turrill) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma dinteri* Schltr. Not to be confused with *Brachystelma dinteri* (Schltr.) Phillips - begun as *Blepharanthera dinteri* Schltr. but now *Ceropegia blepharanthera*.

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "╪òàh!kúítcàq'mtcàqm". [zzzsq]
Namibia, !Kung: "≠oa!xui-tsam'mtsam'm". [zzzsl]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, flattened, pale brown, potato-like tuber eaten raw or roasted. [zzzsq] Namibia, eaten, baked in glowing embers. [zzzsl] Grows in Namibia, Botswana and South Africa. The tuber, up to 10cm (4 inches) in diameter is eaten raw or cooked. Bitter skin usually removed. [zzzxs] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack, vegetable. [zzznw]

Ceropegia brosima see ***Ceropegia bulbosa***

***Ceropegia buchananii* (N.E.Br.) Bruyns**
Previously called *Brachystelma buchananii, Brachystelma magicum* [zz40], *Brachystelma nauseosum* (the flower smells vile) and *Brachystelma shirense*.

John Buchanan noted on a herbarium sheet collected in the Shire Highlands of Malawi in 1881 that: "It has a large fleshy root which is said to possess remarkable healing qualities. When applied to a wound the root is [illegible – staidly? soundly? solidly?] chewed & then laid on. Wounds of a serious nature thus treated are said to heal rapidly." [zzzwe]

Nicholas Brown (N.E.Br.) wrote on a herbarium sheet for *Brachystelma magicum* collected in 1884 from “a long day's journey this side [east towards Zanzibar?] of Ujiji” in Tanzania:

> "... & regarded by the natives as a magic plant causing them to loose their way when met with on a journey". [zzzwd]

***Ceropegia bulbosa* Roxb.**
Also reported as *Ceropegia acuminata*, *Ceropegia brosima**, *Ceropegia esculenta*, Ceropegia tuberosa* and *Ceropegia vignaldiana. Ceropegia edulis** hort. ex Decaisne in de Candolle was not properly published, making three names referring to edibility*.

India: "Khappar-kaddu",
"Bhuu-tumbi",
"Paataal-tumbi",
"Gilothi",
"Gilodya". [zz129]
Hindi: "Khapparkadu". [zz83]
Rajasthan: "Kadula" [zz112],
"Kaduloo" [zz113],
"Kewda Ki Nal". [zz222]
"Patalatumbi" [zz235].
"Hedulo",
"Khapparkadu". [zz76]
Aravalli Hills: "Khadula". [rrrau]
Gujarat: "Jeemi Kanda". [zz34]
Vasava tribe: "Sap Okoni". [zzzwy]
Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar/Nashik districts, Marathi: "Kharpudi". [zzznt]
NW Ahmednagar: "Kharpudi". [rrrat]
Alibag, Kulaba Fort: "Khaparkundi". [zzzpi]
Nasik district, Chandor: "Malode". [zz76]
Khandesh, Shahada: "Dúdha malida kand" (milk and sweetmeat). [zz76]
Marathi: "Khapparkadu",
"Patali Kumbari". [zz83]
Telegu: "Palatige". [zz83]
"Commoo-manda" (as *Ceropegia acuminata*). [zzzbz]
"Commoo-madu" (as *Ceropegia acuminata*). [zzzcc]
"Batsala-mandu" (as *Ceropegia bulbosa*),
"Manchy Mandu" (as *Ceropegia tuberosa*). [zzzbz]
"Manchi (= good) Mandu" (as *Ceropegia bulbosa*), [zzzcc]
Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh: "bosiya kandha". [zz125]
Dhar District tribes: "Khatumbra". [zzziq]
Kannad: "Halliki". [zz83]

India, Punjabi: "Galat". [zz83]
"Galot" [zzzsk] [zz129]
Pakistan: "Glote". [zz8a]
Multan, "Ghalot". [zzzti]
Dhofar, Jibbali: “rob”, singular “rōt”. [rrrbi]
“aḥṯemút” (just the stem). [rrrbi]
“ṣeġeléf” (just the leaves). [rrrbi]
“ṣeferór” (just the flowers). [rrrbi]
“ḳurún” (just the fruit). [rrrbi]
variety with pointed leaves “rōt zinjēt”. [rrrbi]
Dhofari Arabic: “rōb”. [rrrbi]
Southern Yemen: "Alat-khalah",
"Roob". [zzzpv]
Yemen, central Abyan governate, Lawdar & Modyah districts: "Alat-Khalah". [zzznu]
Ethiopia: "Menehoukoua",
"Engoulita",
"Mechuko". [zzzwf]
Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District: "Mshko". [zzzpd]
Africa, Lake Victoria region, Luo: "Ong'eni". [zzzii]

Tuber tonic, aphrodisiac and edible. [zz125] Tuber eaten raw to increase fertility and vitality in both sexes. [zz112, zz113] Refrigerant (adapts the body to excessive heat). [zz34] Usually boiled before eating to remove the bitterness from the alkaloid ceropegine. [zz176]

Pakistan, Salt Range. Tubers cooked in milk and sugar to prepare a highly nutritious sweet. [zz8a] Pakistan, Multan, in 1862, tubers and acid leaves eaten. Reported as *Ceropegia esculenta*. [zzzti]

India, Madhya Pradesh, Dhar District tribes, leaves and tubers boiled as a vegetable. [zzziq] India, Maharashtra, tubers eaten raw or cooked, should be consumed immediately on harvest or they develop a bitter taste within hours. Leaves as sour vegetable. [zzzfc] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Tuber eaten as general tonic. [rrrat] Maharashtra, Alibag, Kulaba Fort, local people eat raw tubers and leaves for the sweet and sour taste.[zzzpi] Gujarat, Ratan Mahal Hills tribes tuber as refrigerant. Maharashtra tribes, tuber for vitality. Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Goa tribes eat the tubers and leaves as vegetables. Ceropegine is the bitter principle. [zz83] India, Bombay Presidency: tubers and leaves eaten uncooked. Also eaten boiled and mixed with either milk and sugar or with salt and spices. India, western Rajasthan, tubers and leaves eaten raw or boiled. [zz76]

India, Rajasthan, Aravalli Hills, BabakaDara. Leaves and tubers edible. Tubers eaten raw for vitality and as refrigerant. Leaves cooked as a vegetable. [rrrau] India, Gujarat, Vasava tribe, tubers edible, boiled and seasoned with crushed chili flakes. [zzzwy] India, aerial parts eaten raw or dressed. [zzzbd] Rajasthan. Tuber eaten cooked or raw. [zz222]

Tubers "bitter, somewhat like raw turnips." [zz14a] India, Andhra Pradesh. Tubers and leaves edible. [zzzsy]

In 1795 Roxburgh, describing the Coromandel Coast of India, had three species all now regarded as varieties of *Ceropegia bulbosa*: *C. acuminata*, *C. bulbosa* and *C. tuberosa*. All parts of these plants were eaten raw or stewed in curries. Fresh roots tasted like a raw turnip, stem tasted of purslane. *C. tuberosa* was said to have a smaller but more palatable tuber. [zzzbz, zzzcc]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mildly sour. Sweet tuber eaten fresh. Seldom found. [zzzpv] Yemen, central Abyan governate, fresh raw parts of stem eaten vs. low immunity.[zzznu] [I have a slight suspicion these last two are a clerical error, there are lots of edible stapeliads in that area that only consist of succulent stems.]

Dhofar. Every part is edible and the different parts named – tubers, stems, leaves, flowers and fruit. Common everywhere that is sufficiently humid. Abundant and foragers can collect large amounts. Young, small tubers “delectably sweet and fine-flavoured”. Older, larger tubers “rather fibrous and slightly sour”. Normally eaten immediately as they do not keep well. A welcome delicacy during the early rainy season when life was particularly hard. The name *rob* is also used just for the tuber but also for inedible tubers with distinguishing terms like “snake's tuber”. [rrrbi] Dhofar. Whole plant edible. Young tubers sweetish. [rrrcv]

Arabian Peninsula, tuber eaten, as snack food by herders. [zz79]

Root tubers edible, reported as *Ceropegia vignaldiana* A. Rich. [zz154] The name *Ceropegia vignaldiana* was used for many African specimens but is now regarded as *Ceropegia bulbosa*. This extended the range of *Ceropegia bulbosa* – now from Cameroon and Chad in Western Africa, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia in the Horn of Africa, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Yemen in Asia Minor and India and Pakistan in Asia Major. [zzzrh]

Kenya, Kisumu county, Onjiko. Found in 1941. Flat, compressed disc-shaped tubers eaten raw. Reported as *Ceropegia brosima,* from ancient Greek βρώσιμος meaning eatable.[zzzii]

Ethiopia. The collector noted:

> "... the tubers are eaten. Raw, their flavour is bitter and a little sugary. When cooked, their flavour is very reminiscent of Jerusalem artichokes."

In the original French:

> "... qu'on en mange les tubercules. Crus, leur saveur est amère et un peu sucrée. Quand ils sont cuits, leur saveur rappelle tout à fait celle des topinambours." [zzzwf]

Rajasthan. Tuber, decoction orally vs. urinary bladder stones. Seed paste inside ear vs. deafness. [zz222] Pakistan, Salt Range. Tubers as aphrodisiac, tonic and vs. seminal debility, leucorrhoea and some digestive complaints in children. [zz8a] Maharashtra, Alibag, Kulaba Fort. Tubers vs. digestive problems. [zzzpi] India, Western Ghats, tuber vs. cold, eye-disease, diarrhoea, dysentery, inflammation of gums, delirious childbirth fever and sneezing. [zzzcx] Aravalli Hills, Charana. Root, bulb and leaves eaten vs. kidney stone. [rrrau]

Tubers eaten raw vs. stomachache. Dried tuber rubbed on stone to apply to scorpion sting. [zz235] Tuber vs. diarrhoea, dysentery. [zz129]

Northern Ethiopia, Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District, fresh whole plant is crushed and fed to livestck vs. abdominal pain. [zzzpd]

India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizome used to poison cats. [zzznt] [This seems totally out of character compared to all the other uses. I feel there is more to this story.]

I grew one plant from seed for a year. It produced a tuber of 82g under a dainty plant in a 20cm (8 inch) square pot. The raw tuber was juicy but quite chewy, though not fibrous in any way at all. Slight sweetness and a hint of Jerusalem artichoke. Cut into rough 1 cm cubes and boiled, they were ready to eat after 5 minutes boiling but perfectly cooked after ten minutes. The texture was like a new potato but denser and more starchy with a texture like other very starchy tuberous tropical vegetables, like suran and some yams. They were just white cubes. Slightly translucent with a slight resemblance to the jelly of cornstarch-based Turkish delight. I should have taken photos but I was too busy eating. I can see why it is used to make sweets in India. The flavour was very mild, a little sweet and a hint of Jerusalem artichoke like the raw tuber. A little bitter where the skin was green but not much. I did not notice any medicinal effect, though my hayfever may have been reduced a little. Overall, absolutely delicious cooked, I would recommend it - if you are in a warm country and could grow it without the amount of electricity I used.

A harvest in 2025 from many cuttings in two 2 litre square pots yielded 87g of tubers in total. The vines were a tangled mass and covered an area under the lights of 40cm by 70 cm. The largest tuber was 9.2g. 12 large tubers, some 3½ cm across, and a handful of small ones. Boiled for 13 minutes and served with a tiny sprinkle of salt, they were delicious. The tiny ones were a little juicy but the big ones were the texture of an excellent new potato and all had a better flavour.

The leaves are also edible, succulent, crisp and easy to eat. When the lights first come on, the leaves are acidic and quite delightfully tangy. As the artificial day progresses, the acid is used up and the leaves taste more bland. Like many other plants adapted to seasonal, or year-round, drought, *Ceropegia bulbosa* has Crassulacean Acid Metabolism (CAM). They take in CO_2 in the night and fix it as malic acid. This is used up for photosynthesis during the day. [me 2022]

***Ceropegia bulbosa* var. *bulbosa* Roxb.**

India, Maharashtra, "Galya",
"Kharpudi",
"Khartundi",
"Khapparkadu". [zzzpk]
Western Ghats: "Kharpudi". [zzzcx]
Satara and Kolhapur district: "Kharpudi". [zzznc]

India, Western Ghats, leaves and tuber edible. Easy to grow in gardens. [zzzcx]
Maharashtra, tuber edible. The leaves are succulent and sour in taste in morning. [zzzpk]
Northern Western Ghats, tubers edible. [zzzsa]

India, Maharashtra, Satara and Kolhapur district, raw tubers to enhance ladies' fertility and vitality. Decoction used vs. bladder stones. Paste applied vs. inflammation of skin. Approximately 78% moisture, 4½% protein, 7% carbohydrate and 9% fibre. [zzznc]

***Ceropegia bulbosa* var. *lushii* (R.A.Graham) Hook.f**

India, Western Ghats: "Kharpudi". [zzzcx]
Maharashtra: "Khapparkadu". [zzzpk]

India, Western Ghats, leaves and tuber edible. Easy to grow in gardens. [zzzcx] India, Northern Western Ghats, leaves and tuber edible and used in traditional medicine. [zzzsa]

***Ceropegia burchelliana* Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma burchellii*.

South Africa, Limpopo, near Bela-Bela (Warmbaths): "Seruch". [rrrct]

South Africa, Limpopo, near Bela-Bela (Warmbaths). The collector noted on the herbarium sheet dated 1905 that “roots much eaten by natives”. [rrrct] Southern Africa. Undetermined part as unknown food use. [zzznw][rrrcs]

***Ceropegia campanulata* G.Don**
Guinea: "Fonyé N'Ké" [zzzni],
"Fonyé" [zzznj]. See also ***Raphionacme splendens***.

Guinea, Kouroussa. In 1902, plant collector Henri Pobéguin noted on the herbarium sheet:

> "2 varieties nearly equal with narrow leaves flower violet – Fonyé N'Ké – tuber flattened round begonia-shaped excellent for eating"

In the original French with odd accents:

> "2 varietés presque pareilles á feuilles étróites fleur violette – Fonyé N'Ké – tubercule rond aplati forme bégonia excellent á manger" [zzzni]

Pobéguin collected the plant again in 1903 and noted:

> "Fonyé - Plant quite common deep purple flower light green in interior - before the leaves - bulbous root ~~begonia~~ cyclamen-shaped, edible."

In the original French:

> "Fonyé – Plante assez commune fleur violet foncé en interieur vert clair – avant les feuilles – racine bulbeuse forme ~~bégonia~~ cyclamen, comestible." [zzznj]

***Ceropegia cancellata* Rchb.**

South Africa. Tuber sent to Europe before 1830 as an edible asclepiad without location data. The tuber was then grown in Dresden until it flowered and sent to Heinrich Gottlieb Ludwig Reichenbach, who named it as a new species. [zzzbx]

***Ceropegia candelabrum* L.**
India, Tamil Nadu: "perun-kodi" [zz29, zz107],
"kattuvalli". [zz63]
Rajasthan: "Kaduloo" [zz113]
Sanskrit: "Bhutumbi". [zz83]
Hindi: "Patalatumbi". [zz83]
Marathi: "Khapparkadu". [zz83]
Telegu (Telugu): "Bachalimanda". [zz83]
Malayalam: "Njota-Njodem-Valli". [zzzpm]
Konkani (as Bramannicè): "Zira-Puti-Valli". [zzzpm]

The ninth volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1689. One of the plants pictured and described was called "Njota-Njodem-Valli" in Malayalam. This plant was later named by Linnæus as *Ceropegia candelabrum* from the report in this book. The author described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "This and Kari-Bepu (*Murraya koenigii*), Ela-calli (*Euphorbia nivulia*), Bala (banana) and Myrobalan (*Terminalia* or *Phyllanthus* spp.) leaves are pounded and collected in a nodule* which, in rice water, warmed and applied to the affected place, reduces the swelling of the stomach from wind; or if these leaves, with tamarind fibers and muringu (*Moringa pterygosperma*) bark are boiled down in brine, liniments used against diseased joints."

* In the 17th century a "nodule" was a small bag closed with a knot for containing medicinal herbs, for making medicinal preparations or applying them to the body in various ways. Rather like the little muslin bags with a drawstring closure sometimes used for *bouquet garni* in cookery.

In the original Latin:

> "Hujus & *Kari-Bepu*, *Ela-Calli*, *Bala*, & *Mirabolani folia* trita in nodulo colligantur, qui in aqua *Orizæ* calefactius & affecto loco applicatus, ventris ex flatibus tumorem minuit, vel si cum foliorum *Tamarindorum* fibris & *Muringu* cortice in *muria* excoquantur, linimentum contra articularem exhibent morbum." [zzzpm]

Tamil Nadu, decoction of leaf and stem with *Vitex negundo* leaf, stem bark of *Thespesia populnea* and *Crataeva adansonii*, two times per day vs. one-sided headache. [zz29]

Tamil Nadu, leaf juice vs. stomach disorder. [zz63] India, Tamil Nadu, Tiruchirappalli District, Pachamalai Hills, stem vs. ulcers. [zzzuk] India, tuber medicinal vs. diarrhoea and dysentery. Rich in ceropegine. [zz35, zz36]

Tuber tonic in bowel complaints in children. Remedy for diarrhoea and dysentery. [zz83] Paste of leaves applied to forehead vs. headache. [zz107] Tuber to increase fertility and vitality. Whole plant vs. kidney stone. [zz113]

***Ceropegia candelabrum* var. *biflora* (L.) Ansari**

Sinhala: "Wel-mottu". [zzzds]

Used as ***Ceropegia bulbosa***. [zz129]

***Ceropegia christenseniana* Hand.-Mazz.**

China: 短序吊灯花 "duan xu diao deng hua". [zz141]

All parts used vs. boils and fractures. [zz141]

Ceropegia ciliatior Bruyns
Reported as Brachystelma ciliatum.

India, Telugu: "Potha Jougu Nimatalayu". [zz25a]
Andhra Pradesh: "Wootakunimmat gadda" [zzzxu]

India, Karnataka, small brownish tubers (to 4 cm diameter) used as food. Habitat: dry grassland amongst scrub jungle. [zz25a] India, Andhra Pradesh, tuber edible. Used in curries with a bitter, potato taste when boiled. [zzzxu]

***Ceropegia circinata* (E.Mey.) Bruyns**
Previously reported as *Brachystelma circinatum*.

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "!xó!àmà". [zzzsq]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, large tuber to 25cm diameter, eaten raw or roasted in hot ash. [zzzsq] Swaziland. Edible stem tubers. [zz144] Reported as *Brachystelma filiforme* Harv., tuber eaten. [zz241] Grows in Namibia, Botswana and South Africa. The large tuber, up to 25cm (10 inches) in diameter is eaten raw or cooked. The bitter skin is usually removed. [zzzxs] Southern Africa, tuber edible. [zzznx] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack, vegetable and sweet preserve. [zzznw] Namibia, eaten, baked in glowing embers. [zzzsl]

Reported as *Brachystelma pallidum* N.E. Br., tuber said to be poisonous. [zz241] This report may come from misunderstanding of the report in Marloth that stated that "flat poisonous tubers" occur in *Brachystelma* species. The only illustration of a *Brachystelma* was a pair of black and white photos (figure 34) of *Brachystelma pallidum* but that was not stated to be poisonous. Neither were any species mentioned as edible. [zz150]

***Ceropegia concanensis* Kambale, Chandore & S.R.Yadav**

Northern Western Ghats, tubers collected "for consumption" (I would guess for eating rather than treating tuberculosis but you never know). [zzzsa]

***Ceropegia convolvuloides* A. Rich.**
Ethiopia: "Merokoua". [zzzwf, zzzng]
Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District: "Merkah". [zzzpd]

Ethiopia, fleshy roots eaten [zzzwf], information from herbarium sheet collected in 1840, "tuberae edulia" - tubers edible. [zzzng]

Northern Ethiopia, Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District, fresh whole plant is crushed and fed to livestock vs. anthrax. [zzzpd]

Ceropegia crassifolia* Schltr. var. *crassifolia

Swaziland. Eaten as a vegetable. [zz144] Southern Africa, used as vegetable. [zzznw]

I grew this long ago. I remember the leaves and flowers as thick, succulent and tasty. [me]

Ceropegia cumingiana **Decne.**
Also called *Ceropegia papuana.*

Australia, Northern Queensland, Batavia River natives: "Anareata". [zzzil]

Australia, Northern Queensland, Batavia River natives, tuber used as a yam. [zzzil]

Ceropegia cupulata **(R.A.Dyer) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma cupulatum.*

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "||'orè". [zzzsq]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, rather common tuber the size, shape, consistency and colour of a small potato, eaten raw or roasted. Shallow roots, easily dug up. [zzzsq] Grows in Namibia, Botswana and South Africa. Important food source for local people. The tuber, up to 10cm (4 inches) in diameter is eaten raw or cooked. The bitter skin is usually removed. [zzzxs] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

Ceropegia decaisneana **Wight**

This plant or ***Ceropegia elegans*** reported in 1874 to be used in modern Vedic rituals on the Malabar coast as a substitute for the ancient "Soma". [zz172]

Ceropegia devecchii see ***Ceropegia variegata***

Ceropegia dichotoma **Haw.**
Canary Islands, "sayon mataperro", (= "long-tunic kill-dog", "sayon" may be a long tunic or a xerophytic member of the Chenopodiaceae.)
Tenerife: "berol macho",
"cardenillo",
"cardenillo". [zzzsf]

Stem juice vs. wounds. [zz60] Canary Islands, Tenerife, used vs. warts, cut into little wheels and rubbed on the warts. Discarded in a sunny place, when the bits of plant are dry the wart will be dry. Harvested out of sight of the sea, applied vs. fungal skin infections (empeines). [zzzsf]

Used in tanning. [zz60] Used mashed as poison vs. mice and other pests. [zzzsf]

Ceropegia dichotoma **ssp.** ***krainzii*** **(Svent.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Ceropegia krainzii*.

Canary Islands: "cardoncillo" (= "little teasel or columnar cactus"),
"uña de gato" (= "cat claw"),
"mataperro" [zz61] (= kill-dog).

Juice of stem or aerial parts as cicatrizant. [zz61]

***Ceropegia discoidea* (R.A.Dyer) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma discoideum.*

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "ǂòàh!xúí!kúí",
"gámn!áng!áu",
"n|áíci-|aúsì". [zzzsq]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi. Tuber eaten raw or roasted and sometimes pounded with other ingredients. As with most *Brachystelma* species, the bitter skin is usually removed. Shallow roots, easily dug up. In one village, plants are dug up and transplanted closer to their huts. [zzzsq]

Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

***Ceropegia distincta* N.E.Br.**

Southern Africa. Unknown part as vegetable. [zzznw]

***Ceropegia dolichophylla* Schltr.**

China, West Yunnan, Tali Range (near Dali City), from collections made in 1904-1906 by George Forrest. In 1913, it was reported that "Root fleshy, and eaten by the hill tribes." [zzznh]

***Ceropegia edulissima* Bruyns**
Reported as Brachystelma edule Collett & Hemsl., also as *Brachystelma edulis*. The specific name "*edule"* means edible, "*edulissima*" means "the most edible".

China, Guangxi, Yunnan: 潤肺草 "rùn fèi cǎo" (= "profit lung grass"). [zz141]
India: "Hanuman batata". [zzzsz]
Maharashtra, "Singati galya". [zzzpk]
Satara and Kolhapur district: "Galya". [zzznc, zzzsz]
Thailand: "Haew kadang nga". [zzzsm]

Myanmar. In 1890, Henry Collett and William Botting Hemsley published the new species:

> "The fleshy root is sold as an article of food in the Bazar, and has a faint mawkish [nauseating, disgusting, sickly or insipid] flavour." [zz56]

Brigadier-General Collett had made some notes on the herbarium sheet, two years before.

> "Pyawbwe . Upper Burmah –
> on sandy plains – abundant — Very difficult to see as the leaves
> tuberous root eaten by the Burmans, are like the grass among
> and sold in the bazars as an article of food – wʰ it grows –
> taste insipid — July 1888 ." [zzzio]

Collett stated that the round tuber is up to an inch in diameter. [zz56] However, Collett's natural size sketch is 3.9 cm (a shade over 1½ inches) across. [zzzio]

Maharashtra, tubers edible. [zzzpk, zz141] India, Maharashtra, Satara and Kolhapur district, tubers eaten cooked. Approximately 81% moisture, 4% protein, 3½% carbohydrate and 8% fibre. [zzznc] India? Tubers eaten as a food supplements in rural areas when food is short. [zzzsz]

China. Tuber edible. [zzzsz]

Thailand, tuber subglobose, 1.5-2.5cm diameter, edible. [zzzsm]

China. Plant used vs. coughs and phlegm. [zz141][zzzsz] India, Maharashtra, Satara and Kolhapur district, decoction used vs. bodily discomfort, cough and cold. [zzznc]

***Ceropegia elenaduensis* (Sathyan.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma elenaduensis* or B. elenaduense.

India, Kannada: "Ullika" or
"Unneeka". [zz53]

India, Karnataka, small tubers (to 3 or 4cm) used as food. Habitat: sandy grassland. [zz53] Locals relish the taste. [zzzxs]

***Ceropegia elegans* Wall.**

This plant or ***Ceropegia decaisneana*** reported in 1874 to be used in modern Vedic rituals on the Malabar coast as a substitute for the ancient "Soma". [zz172]

Ceropegia elliptica (A.Rich.) Bruyns
Reported as *Brachystelma lineare.*

Ethiopia, "Ambacha" [zzzwf],
Tigrinia: "ambaschia" [zz78].

Ethiopia, in shady and damp areas along the Tekezé River - apparently quoting Léon Richard Quartin-Dillon (died in Ethiopia, 1841): "... of which they eat the large, fleshy tubers...". In the original French: "... dont ils mangent les gros tubercules charnus..." [zzzwf] Tubers eaten in Ethiopia. [zz78] Tubers eaten by Abyssinians. [zz237]

Ceropegia esculenta see ***Ceropegia bulbosa***

***Ceropegia evansii* McCann**

Maharashtra, India, tubers eaten as food. [zz173] Maharashtra, tuber edible and collected by local people. [zzzpk]

Ceropegia evansii var. *media* see ***Ceropegia media***

***Ceropegia fantastica* Sedgw.**
India, Gujarat, Vasava tribe: "Okoni". [zzzwy]

India, Gujarat, Vasava tribe, tubers edible, boiled and seasoned with crushed chili flakes. [zzzwy]

***Ceropegia filiformis* (Burch.) Schltr.**
Ceropegia filiformis E.A.Bruce = *Ceropegia cataphyllaris* Bullock, a Zimbabwean plant not included in this book.

Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

***Ceropegia fusca* Bolle**
Canary Islands "cardoncillo" = "little teasel or columnar cactus".
Tenerife: "berode chico",
"berol macho",
"berolillo",
"cardenillo",
"cardoncillo",
"cardonillo". [zzzsf]

Canary Islands, Tenerife, stalk applied vs. spider bite. Opened and applied vs. warts. Plant parts put in the sun to dry, the wart dries at the same time. Applied vs. broken lips. Used vs. wounds, fungal skin infections and to stop bleeding. In animals, used vs. wounds and fungal skin infections. Possibly used vs. typhus, but that was under the name "verode macho" which may also be *Kleinia neriifolia* (Asteraceae). [zzzsf]

Stem juice vs. wounds. [zz60]

Used in tanning. [zz60]

Ceropegia gerrardii (Harv.) Bruyns
Reported as *Brachystelma gerrardii*.

Swaziland: "sidsendza",
"sidzendza". [zz144]

Edible fleshy roots. [zz144]

***Ceropegia glabra* (Hook.f.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma glabrum*.

A review of *Brachystelma* gives the uses of this species as wild tuber for food [zzzsw] but only has one reference. I can find no mention in the original article [zzzsy] of any use for this species, though it is mentioned and uses are mentioned for species of other genera.

***Ceropegia glabriflora* (F.Muell.) Bruyns**
Formerly *Brachystelma glabriflorum* (F. Muell.) Schltr., *Microstemma glabriflorum* F.Muell., *Microstemma tuberosum* R. Br., *Brachystelma microstemma* Schltr. and *Brachystelma papuana* Schltr. See also ***Ceropegia kerrii***.

Australia, Cape Bedford natives: "Warbooga". [zzzil]
Kimberley Region, Kija people: "parnariny", "panariny". [zzzbv]
Kimberley Region, Jaru people: "banari". [zzzbv]
Murinpatha/Jamandjung: "marai", "wadjebut". [zzzit]
Dalabon/Nalkbun: "Badju",
Jawony: "Djalwak". [zzziw]
English: "Bush Potato",
“round sweet yam”. [zzzbv]

Western Australia, Kimberley Region, Kija, small, round, white "yam" not very deep in the ground, very sweet and tasty. Eaten raw or lighly roasted in sand and fire ashes. Jaru, same use, considered one of the best bush foods. [zzzbv]

Northwestern Australia. Tuber eaten raw or roasted in ashes. Has been transplanted into gardens for food use. [zzzit]

Australia, Northern Territory, Palmerston and neighbourhood, grows plentifully. Natives eat the tuber raw or roasted, looks and tastes when boiled like a white turnip. [zzzck]

Australia, Northern Territory, tuber eaten raw, roasted on hot coals or boiled like a potato. The bell-shaped flowers are said to always point to where the next plant is growing, making it easy to find more. [zzziw]

Australia, tubers eaten raw or roasted in the ashes of a fire. Grows in seasonal swamps during the short wet season. Tastes like a potato. One European complained that it gave him a severe headache, though the tuber might have been misidentified by the young native boy who found it. [zz75]

***Ceropegia gondwanensis* (Govekar, Kahalkar & Sardesai) Kottaim**.
Reported as *Brachystelma gondwanense.* The specific name is derived from the area of India, the Forest of the Gond people. Not to be confused with the ancient supercontinent Gondwanaland which was also named after the same forest.

India, Maharashtra, tubers look like small potatoes, up to 5cm (2 inches) in diameter. Peeled and eaten by locals. [zzzxv]

***Ceropegia gracilior* Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma gracile.*

East Africa, tuber edible. [zzzwb]

Ceropegia hirsuta **Wight & Arn.**
Also called *Ceropegia hispida*, *Ceropegia jacquemontiana* and *Ceropegia ophiocephala*.

India, Marathi: "Hamana",
Western Ghats: "Haamana". [zzzcx, zzzpk]
Maharashtra, Satara and Kolhapur district: "Haaman". [zzznc]
NW Ahmednagar: "Haman". [rrrat]
border of Ahmednagar and Nashik, Marathi: "Kharpudi". [zzznt]
Satpura Hills, Pawra tribe - "Khotti". [fffar]
Thailand, Ubon Ratchathani province, Ubon: "Kluea li tam". [zzzsx]

India, Maharastra, the tubers of this Hairy Ceropegia are eaten as a vegetable. [zz80] India, Western Ghats, tuber edible. Easy to grow in gardens. [zzzcx, zzzpk] Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes are edible. [zzznt] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat] Maharashtra, Satara and Kolhapur district, raw tubers as vegetable. Approximately 76% moisture, 5% protein, 8½% carbohydrate and 9% fibre. [zzznc] Northern Western Ghats, tubers eaten raw by cattle herders. [zzzsa] India, Andhra Pradesh. Tubers edible. [zzzsy]

India, Maharashtra, Satpura Hills, Pawra tribe - three to five fresh leaves are chewed vs. stomachache. [fffar] Maharashtra, Satara and Kolhapur district, decoction used vs. bladder stones. Warm tuber paste applied vs. viral infection. Decoction used vs. stomachache, dysentery and diarrhoea. [zzznc]

Thailand, Ubon Ratchathani province. Decoction of whole plant orally and bruised then applied locally vs. bodily discomfort. Unidentified species of *Ceropegia* with the same common name used in the same way. [zzzsx]

Ceropegia hispida see ***Ceropegia hirsuta***

Ceropegia huberi **Ansari**
India, Western Ghats: "Kharpudi". [zzzcx, zzzpk]

India, Western Ghats, tuber edible. Easy to grow in gardens. [zzzcx] Northern Western Ghats, tubers edible. [zzzsa]

Ceropegia intermedia **Wight**

India, used as ***Ceropegia bulbosa***. [zz129]

Ceropegia jainii **Ansari & B.G.P.Kulk.**

India, Western Ghats, tuber mostly eaten by cowboys. [zzzcx, zzzsa] Maharashtra, tuber edible and often collected from the wild. [zzzpk]

Ceropegia jacquemontiana see ***Ceropegia hirsuta***

***Ceropegia johnstonii* (N.E.Br.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma johnstonii.*

Uganda, Karamoja: "akurukuri",
"Naporokenyen",
"adodoi". [zzzwb]

Uganda, Karamoja. Tuber edible. [zzzxs, zzzwb]

Uganda, Karamoja. Ground, dried tuber vs. chest pains. [zzzxs, zzzwb]

***Ceropegia juncea* Roxb.**
India, Andhra Pradesh, Telugu: "Bella-gada". [zz129, zzzbz]
Telugu: "Bellagadda". [zz80]
Marathi: "Wel Khantudi". [zz80]
Western Ghats: "Kanvel". [zzzcx, zzzpk]
Maharashtra: "Kanvel". [zz129]
Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Pulichan". [zzztf]
South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills: "Pulicham". [zzzuo]

India, aerial parts generally made into pickles.[zzzbd] All parts are edible. Raw vs. thirst. [zzzbz] India, succulent plant with an agreeable, acid taste much eaten as a salad. [xxxld] India, Andhra Pradesh. Plant edible. [zzzsy]

Reported to be one source of "Soma",* an Ayurvedic drug with a wide variety of uses but also a divine medicinal plant mentioned in ancient Vedic scripture. Several plants are used under that name in modern India including *Ruta graveolens* and *Ephedra* species. [rrrfv] The ancient sacrament is likely to have been an *Ephedra*. [zz69]

Alcoholic extracts were antipyretic, analgesic, local anaesthetic, anti-ulcer, mast-cell stabilising, hepatoprotective, tranquillising and hypotensive in animals. The effects were due to the alkaloids. The major alkaloid is cerpegin, an unusual pyridone. [zz6a] When dried, naturally grown plants contain about 0.5 mg/g of alkaloid. [zzzqb] * See also ***Cynanchum viminale ssp. viminale***.

India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, stem crushed with milk, taken orally for three days vs. ulcer. [zzztf] Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills, stem crushed, mixed with milk, taken vs. stomach ulcer. [zzzuo] Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu & Karnataka, extract of plant used as a tranquilliser. [zz173]

I have nibbled the young shoots of my plants many times. Pleasant taste, very mild bitterness, quite juicy. When blanched to a very pale green by their habit of burrowing into dark crevices in the growing cabinet, they are almost sweet. No ill effects. More acidic in the mornings, as expected of plants with Crassulacean Acid Metabolism. See the tasting notes for *Ceropegia bulbosa*. After 18 months some cuttings had tiny tubers. The largest, after cleaning up, was 1.5 grammes. 8 tubers were a shade over 5 grammes. They had a thick, cracked skin. Boiled for 12 minutes in lotsof water. The skin was easily removed after cooking, leaving a strangely angular translucent white flesh. Perfectly edible, no chewy fibres but not as good a texture as *Ceropegia bulbosa*. Slight bitterness reminiscent of lettuce. Even if they were larger, not worth repeating. [me]

***Ceropegia kaariyei* Thulin**
Ethiopia, Somali: “maroro”. [rrrbo, zz229]

Ethiopia, Harerghe, Qarsomi. Herbarium specimen from 2006 has the note "Climber to 2m tall, with edible tuber and stem." [rrrbo, zz229]

***Ceropegia keniensis* Masinde**
Kenya, Rift Valley province, Masai: "engerio-ekop".

Fleshy fusiform roots eaten for their juice as a thirst quencher. [zz154]

***Ceropegia kerrii* (Craib) Bruyns**
Although reported as *Brachystelma glabriflorum* (see ***Ceropegia glabriflora***), that species is only found in Australia, Java and New Guinea. There is only one synonym in the list given by Obchant Thaithong *et al* in the *Handbook of Asclepiads of Thailand* that is found in Thailand. According to the Kew Gardens POWO website, it must be *Brachystelma kerrii* Craib, now called *Ceropegia kerrii* (Craib) Bruyns.

Thailand: "Wan-kai-kaeng" [zzzsm]
Ubon Ratchathani province, Ubon: "Khruea khao", "kwang on". [zzzsx]
Thai: "Phaya bai rai". [zzzsx]

Thailand. Tuber subglobose, 1-2cm diameter, edible. [zzzsm]

Thailand, Ubon Ratchathani province. Decoction of whole plant orally as tonic and vs. bodily discomfort. [zzzsx]

***Ceropegia kolarensis* (Arekal & T.M.Ramakrishna) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma kolarensis.*

India, used as food. [zz75]

***Ceropegia laevigata* (Wight) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma laevigatum*.

India, Upper Gangetic Plain. Used for attractive foliage. [zzzsu]

***Ceropegia lankana* (Dassan. & Jayas.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma lankana*.

Sri Lanka: "Patana ala" = "grassland yam". [zz20a]

Sri Lanka, edible fleshy tuber, up to 3.5 x 1.5cm. Collected for eating during the northeast monsoon rains. [zz20a]

Ceropegia lawii **Hook. f.**
India, Marathi: "Kharpudi",
"Pivli kharchudi" [zz80]
Western Ghats: "Tilori",
"Kharpudi". [zzzcx, zzzpk]
Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Kharpudi". [rrrat]
border of Ahmednagar/Nashik districts, Marathi: "Thilori". [zzznt]

India, Maharashtra, tubers eaten as food in high numbers. [zz80] Bombay State, tuber reaches 10 x 8 x 6 cm and contains abundant and edible starch. Much collected by locals. [zz196] Western Ghats, tuber edible. [zzzcx, zzzpk, zzzsa] India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes are edible. [zzznt] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat]

Ceropegia linearis **E.Mey.**

Swaziland. Edible stems for water. Edible tubers. [zz144]

Ceropegia linophyllum **H.Huber**
Reported as *Ceropegia senegalensis.*

Burkina Faso, Seno & Nayala Provinces, "Kirimougoin". [zzzwa]

Burkina Faso, Seno & Nayala Provinces, raw roots eaten to suppress appetite during famine. Gathered from wild. [zzzwa]

Ceropegia lugardiae **N.E. Br.**
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "n!úí". [zzzsq]
Tanzania, Somali: "Gonyera". [rrrbc]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, roots not considered edible. [zzzsq]

Zimbabwe and Namibia. Fleshy roots washed and eaten raw, cooked or roasted. A source of water in time of drought. [zz200] Roots edible roasted, texture and flavour similar to ***Ceropegia nilotica***. [zz88] Southern Africa, unknown part as vegetable. [zzznw] Tubers roasted and eaten. [zzzsl]

Tanzania. Fresh root chewed and juice swallowed, remnant squeezed on wound vs. snake bite. [rrrbc, zz200]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, leaves applied to bow strings to make them soft, pliant and smooth. Stem and leaf roasted, pounded to make a powder for medicine and hunting. Rubbed into skin incisions vs. back and leg ailments. Rubbed into incisions on forehead or stems bound round head to improve chances of hunting success. [zzzsq]

Namibia, Bushmen hunters rub the leaves on the strings of bows to make them smooth and pliant. Stem, roots and fruits are bound on the body as a lucky charm during hunting. [zz200]

Ceropegia maccannii **Ansari**
Previously *Ceropegia lawii* var. *maccannii*.

India, Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Tilori". [rrrat]
border of Ahmednagar/Nashik districts, Marathi: "Thilori". [zzznt]

Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat] India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes are edible. [zzznt]

Ceropegia mahabalei **Hemadri & Ansari**
India, Maharashtra, "Gauti Kharpudi". [zzzpk]
Salher and Mulher Forest: "Kandilphul". [zzzwc]
border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, Marathi: "Thilori". [zzznt]
NW Ahmednagar: "Kharpudi". [rrrat]

India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes used as vegetables. [zzznt] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat]

India, Maharashtra, Salher and Mulher Forest, tubers tonic for good health and eaten raw vs. night blindness. [zzzwc]

Ceropegia malwanensis **(S.R.Yadav & N.P.Singh) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma malwanense* and *Brachystelma naoroji*.

India, Maharashtra: "Haman",
"Hanuman batata". [zzzxt, zzzpk]

India, Maharashtra, tubers edible. [zzzpk] Maharashtra, tubers edible. [zzzpk]

Maharashtra, tubers as food and medicine among the local cowboys. A pinch of dried, powdered tubers with one teaspoon of honey taken for 5-6 days vs. stomachache, coughs and colds in children. [zzzxt]

Ceropegia media **(Huber) Ansari**
Previously *Ceropegia evansii* var. *media*.

Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Kharpudi". [rrrat]

Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat] India, Western Ghats, tuber edible. [zzzcx, zzzpk, zzzsa]

Ceropegia metziana **Miq.**
India, Kerala, Wayanad district, Paniya & Kuruma: "Palankeera". [rrrcu]
Kattunaikka: "Palankeerai". [rrrcu]

India, Kerala, Wayanad district, Paniya, Kuruma & Kattunaikka peoples. Wild plant eaten as greens. [rrrcu]

***Ceropegia meyeri* Decne.**

Swaziland. Leaves eaten as spinach by Vendas. Edible tubers. [zz144] Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw]

It should be noted that there are other species with similar names - *Ceropegia meyeriana* (Schltr.) Bruyns (née *Brachystelma meyerianum* Schltr.) and *Ceropegia meyeri-johannis* Engl. I have not found any reports of uses for them.

***Ceropegia muliensis* W.W.Sm.**

China, Southwest Sichuan, Muli mountains. The collector George Forrest recorded:

> "Alt. 10,000 ft. Scandent plant of 2–4 ft. Flowers purple and green. Tubers eaten by natives. Aug. 1918." [zzzik]

***Ceropegia multiflora* Baker**
!Kung: "!gama". [zz116]
Setswana: "Serowa". [zz88]

Angola, Moçâmedes. In 1895, on a herbarium sheet later identified as this species, the collector Berthelot (first name unknown) noted: "edible plant", in the original French: "pl. comestible". [zzzno]

Southern Africa, tuber edible. [zzznx] Southern Africa, unknown part for moisture, as snack and vegetable. [zzznw] Tubers roasted and eaten. [zzzsl] Tuber edible roasted. [zz88] Root edible. [zz137]

100g fresh tubers contain: water 95 g, carbohydrate 3 g, protein 0.8 g, fat 0.03 g, fibre 0.3 g, energy 65 kJ (15 kcal). [zz116]

***Ceropegia multiflora* subsp. *tentaculata* (N.E.Br.) H.Huber**
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "!ámá". [zzzsq]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, tubers up to 25cm diameter, highly valued for nourishment. Pale yellow flesh, slightly juicy and tastes like a potato or better. Often eaten immediately on discovery but can be baked in hot ash, then often pounded with *Eulophia* (Orchidaceae) corms. [zzzsq]

***Ceropegia nallamalayana* (K.Prasad & B.R.P.Rao) Kottaim.**

A review of *Brachystelma* gives the uses of *Brachystelma nallamalayanum* as tuber for food [zzzsw] but only has the original description of the species [zzzsv] as a reference. I can find no mention in the original article of any use for this species. The species was only found in an area of 10 m² with 60 individuals, so it seems unlikely that they are eaten very much by local people.

Ceropegia nilotica **Kotschy**
Kwanyama, Ovamboland: "ombutu yanamukuto". [zzzsl]
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "n||a'àmà". [zzzsq]
!Kung: "n//a'àmà". [zzzsl]

Namibia, Ju/'hoansi people, not tubers but bunches of fleshy white roots the length of a pencil but slightly thinner. Easily dug out. Often eaten raw, juicy and crisp refreshment on hot days. Taste and texture reminiscent of horseradish. Can be roasted in hot ash, especially in winter when their water content is low. Fairly common and a regular ingredient of their diet. [zzzsq]

Roots edible when roasted, flavour like a potato but distinctly its own and firmer. No fibre, suggested that it could be cultivated as a vegetable. [zz88] Swaziland. Tubers eaten by Bushmen in Namibia. [zz144] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw] Tubers roasted and eaten. Fleshy roots eaten raw and cooked by Kwanyama and Herero peoples. [zzzsl]

Ceropegia noorjahaniae **M.A.Ansari**

India, Maharashtra, Satara, tuber edible. [zzzpk]

Ceropegia nuda see ***Ceropegia subaphylla***

Ceropegia oculata **Hook.**
India, Western Ghats: "Kharpudi", [zzzcx]
"Khapar-kuti". [zzzcx]
Maharashtra: Purandhar: "Dudhani". [zzzns]
border of Ahmednagar & Nashik districts, Marathi: "Kharpudi". [zzznt]
"Kharpudi",
"Khapar-khutti". [zzzpk]
NW Ahmednagar: "Haman". [rrrat]

India, Western Ghats, tubers edible. Performs well in gardens. [zzzcx] India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes are edible. [zzznt] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat] Maharashtra, tuber edible. [zzzpk] Northern Western Ghats, tubers collected by locals. [zzzsa]

Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purandhar, leaf juice internally vs. conjunctivitis. [zzzns]

Ceropegia odorata **Nimmo**
India, Gujarat: "Kundher",
"Kundhar",
"Vahodiyo"
"Vansadiyo",
"Khaloro". [zzzxz]
Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, Marathi: "Tilori". [zzznt]
NW Ahmednagar: "Kharpudi". [rrrat]
"Sulati-khutti". [zzzpk]

India, Gujarat, tubers eaten before flowers produced. In 2017, plant threatened by excessive harvesting for food. [zzzxz] India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes used as vegetables. [zzznt] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat] Maharashtra, tuber edible. Good for a home garden, with scented flowers. [zzzpk]

Ceropegia ophiocephala see ***Ceropegia hirsuta***

Ceropegia pachystelma **Schltr.**
Botswana: "Serowa". [zz88]

Tuber edible. Hargreaves first encountered this species as he rescued it from a museum driver, Rapakehenene, who had already taken a bite from the tuber. [zz88]

Ceropegia panchganiensis **Blatt. & McCann**
Maharashtra: "Kharpudi",
"Khartundi". [zzzpk]

Maharashtra, India, tubers eaten as food. [zz173] Maharashtra, tuber edible. [zzzpk]

Ceropegia papillata **N.E. Br.**

Malawi, Kota Kota Hills, tuberous roots and raw leaves eaten by boys. Watery tubers eaten vs. thirst. [zz116]

Ceropegia papuana see ***Ceropegia cumingiana***
but *Brachystelma papuana* see ***Ceropegia glabriflora***

Ceropegia perdita **(R.A.Dyer) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma perditum*.

Lesotho. Tubers bought by a botanist from Basuto herdboys, possibly their snacks. [zz65]

Ceropegia plocamoides **(Oliv.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma plocamoïdes*. Formerly *Brachystelma linearifolium*.

During the expedition to find the source of the Nile from 1860 to 1863, John Hanning Speke collected a specimen of this plant. He found it at Mgunda Mkali in German East Africa, now in Tanzania. On the herbarium sheet he noted:

> "Bulbous edible plant. Flower a purple (dark) star, green outside - root flat garden turnip size - tasted good - liquoricy & peeled like a turnip. The natives eat it greedily Rare - in dry forest." [zzzwg]

East Africa, tuber edible. [zzzwb]

***Ceropegia pubescens* Wall**
Nepali: "ban semi",
"mirkey laharo". [zz149]
"Bansimi",
"Ban-sem". [zzzfb]
Nepal, Kyang, Nepali: "Ban semi".
Magar/Majhi: "Mirke lahara". [zzzir]

Nepal, Rupandehi District, young beans used as vegetable. [zzzfb]

Nepal, juice of the bark applied vs. boils, pimples, cuts and wounds. [zz149, zzzir]

***Ceropegia pullaiahii* Raja Kullayisw., Sandhyar. & Karupp.**

India, Andhra Pradesh, Anantapur district, tubers circa 3.8 x 3.6 x 2.7 cm. Eaten by local people. [zzzqc]

***Ceropegia purpurascens* K.Schum.**
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "||àè╪'àmkú". [zzzsq]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, tubers usually baked in ashes then eaten. [zzzsq] Southern Africa, unknown part as vegetable. [zzznw]

***Ceropegia purpurascens* subsp. *purpurascens* K.Schum.**
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Bapedi traditional healers: "Monamela". [zzzuy, rrrac]

Limpopo Province, Bapedi traditional healers. Root boiled for 10 minutes vs. erectile dysfunction. [zzzuy]

Limpopo Province, Bapedi traditional healers. (Same authors) Root boiled for 10-30 minutes, extract taken three times a day vs. impotence. [rrrac]

***Ceropegia pusilla* Wight & Arn.**
India, Nilgiris: "Chutlan-killangu". [zzzff]
Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar & Nashik districts, Marathi: "Tilori". [zzznt]

India, Nilgiris, tubers eaten and much appreciated. [zzzff] India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes used as vegetables. [zzznt]

Antidote to snake-bite. [zzzgp]

India, wild hogs on the hills said to be very fond of the tubers. [xxxle]

***Ceropegia pygmaea* Schinz**
Reported as *Brachystelma gymnopodum.*

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "|'amà". [zzzsq]
Namibia and S. Angola, Ovambo: "ombutu yanamukutu". [zz88]
Botswana: "mowane". [zz88]
Ovambo: "oombuto". [zzzgx]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, rather common and large quantities of tubers are collected and consumed every season. Tuber like a small potato in size, colour and taste, eaten raw or roasted in ash. [zzzsq]

Edible root. [zz62] Tubers eagerly sought as food. [zz88] Ovambo, watery tubers eaten. [zzzgx] Grows in Namibia, Botswana and South Africa. The tuber, up to 10cm (4 inches) in diameter is eaten raw or cooked. Important food item locally. The bitter skin is usually removed. [zzzxs] Tubers roasted and eaten. [zzzsl] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi. Leaves used as hair ornaments by women. [zzzsq]

Ceropegia rehmannii (Schltr.) Bruyns
Reported as *Brachystelma foetidum.*

Botswana: "kopusete" or
"kopusele",
"serowa". [zz91]
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Seru". [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau. "The roots are eaten by shepherd boys." [zzznz] Southern Sotho, tuber eaten. [zz241] Botswana, leaves boiled with salt and eaten with porridge with or without margarine. Tubers edible, a kind of "serowa". [zz91]

Southern Africa, unknown part as snack, vegetable, meal and yeast. [zzznw]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "Used as a medicine for children's colds." [zzznz] Southern Sotho. Remedy for colds in children. [zz241] Lesotho: vs. colds in children. [zzzrr]

***Ceropegia rendallii* N.E. Br.**

Swaziland. Edible tubers. [zz144]

Southern Africa, unknown part for moisture, as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

***Ceropegia rhynchantha* Schltr.**
Burkina Faso, Forêt Classee de Niangoloko, Goin: "Kanhulpilaŋgu". [rrraj]

Burkina Faso, Forêt Classee de Niangoloko. Decoction of entire plant three times a day vs. malaria (paludisme). [rrraj]

***Ceropegia ringens* A.Rich.**
Reported as *Ceropegia sinuata* Decne. ex A.Rich. Not to be confused with *Ceropegia sinuata* Poir. which is now ***Microloma tenuifolium.***

Ethiopia, Tigray: "Merrokoa". [zzznh, rrrbe] for edible species with the same common name, see ***Ceropegia abyssinica*** and ***Ceropegia convolvuloides***.

Now Ethiopia, Amhara region. Wilhelm Georg Schimper was a plant collecter and son-in-law of Dejazmach Wube, the conqueror and ruler of Tigray - before Wube was deposed and imprisoned. In 1852, Schimper noted on a Herbarium sheet:

> “On mountains between Gebrischen*, Serraba† 5-6,000‡ feet above sea level
> Tigray Name: Merrokoa
> Use: the bulbs are eaten raw by travellers and herd-boys” [rrrbe]

* Unidentified. Many of Schimper's locations are tricky to find but this could be a word meaning something else. His handwriting is difficult to decrypt. [rrrbf]
† Now Seraba, found at 12°31' N 37° 01'40" E in the Central Gondar Zone.
‡ 1,500 to 1,800 metres

In the original German:

> “Auf bergen zwischen Gebrischen?, Serraba 5000-6000' [Fuß] uber Meer
> Tigre Name: Merrokoa
> Gebraug: du bulben werden von Wanderern[?] u[nd] Hirtenknaben roh gegessen”

***Ceropegia rollae* Hemadri**
India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar & Nashik districts, Marathi: "Kharpudi". [zzznt]
NW Pune District, Dhak & Durga Khilla: "Kharpudi". [zzzoh, zzzpk]
NW Ahmednagar: "Kharpudi". [rrrat]

India, Maharashtra, northwest Pune District, Dhak & Durga Khilla, "root a subglobose perennial tuber (edible)". [zzzoh] Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes used as vegetables. [zzznt] Maharashtra, northwest Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat] Maharashtra, tuber edible. [zzzpk]

***Ceropegia rubella* (E.Mey.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma rubellum.*

Kenya, Kamba: "muthunga". [zzzwb]
Southwest Uganda: "mkumbe". [zzzwb]

Kenya, Kamba, tuber eaten. Southwest Uganda, tuber eaten in times of famine. [zzzwb]

Ceropegia ruspoliana see ***Ceropegia affinis***

Ceropegia sagittata see ***Microloma sagittatum***

Ceropegia sahyadrica **Ansari & Kulk.**
India, Marathi: "Pandhri kharchudi". [zz80]
Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar & Nashik districts, Marathi: "Kharpudi". [zzznt]
NW Ahmednagar: "Kharpudi". [rrrat]
"Kartodi". [zzzpk]

India, Maharashtra, tubers eaten as food. [zz173] Western Ghats, tubers eaten by cowboys. [zzzcx] India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, rhizomes used as vegetables. [zzznt] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Roasted tuber eaten. [rrrat] Maharashtra, tuber edible. [zzzpk] Northern Western Ghats, "destruction of tubers by cattle herders" stated to be a major threat to the plant. [zzzsa]

Ceropegia schinziata **Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma schinzii.*

Grows in Namibia, Botswana and South Africa. The tuber, up to 7cm (2¾ inches) in diameter is eaten raw or cooked. The bitter skin is usually removed. The growing plant may be moved closer to home for convenience. [zzzxs]

Ceropegia schultzei **(Schltr.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Tenaris schultzei*, also known as *Brachystelma schultzei.*

Southern Africa, tuber edible. [zzznx]

Ceropegia senegalensis see ***Ceropegia linophyllum***

Ceropegia shrirangii **(Kambale, Gholave & Sardesai) Kottaim.**
Reported as *Brachystelma shrirangii.*

India, Maharashtra & Karnataka. Tubers up to 4cm (1½") across, collected for food. [zzzxv]

Ceropegia simplex **(Schltr.) Bruyns**
Reported as Brachystelma simplex.

Kenya, Kamba: "ithinza". [zzzwb]

Kenya, Ukambani, tubers relished by livestock herders. Soft, watery white tissues with a raw potato texture. [zzzwb]

Ceropegia sinuata Decne. ex A.Rich. see ***Ceropegia ringens***
Ceropegia sinuata Poir. see ***Microloma tenuifolium***

Ceropegia sobolifera **N.E. Br.**

Eaten by people (in Ethiopia, presumably). [zz46]

***Ceropegia spaniflora* Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma pauciflorum*.

India, Upper Gangetic Plain. Used as food. [zzzsu]

***Ceropegia spathulata* (Lindl.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma tuberosum*.

Tuber eaten. [zz241]

***Ceropegia spiralis* Wight**
S. India, Andhra Pradesh: “Nimmati gadda”.

India, Telangana, Wanaparthy, Tirumalaiah Gutta Sacred Grove, tuber edible. [zzzqs] Root tubers edible. [zz213] India, Andhra Pradesh. Tubers edible. [zzzsy]

India, Telangana, Wanaparthy, Tirumalaiah Gutta Sacred Grove, tuber used vs. indigestion. [zzzqs] Used in many Ayurvedic formulations as a nutritive tonic and vs. diarrhoea and dysentery. [zz213] For indigestion one teaspoonful of tuber paste is taken once per day for three days. [zz186]

***Ceropegia stenantha* K.Schum.**

Tanzania, root decoction vs. stomach problems in young children. Zimbabwe the root is chewed and the sap swallowed as a lucky charm. [zz200] Southern Africa, tuber edible. [zzznx]

***Ceropegia stenoloba* Hochst. ex Werderm.**
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "g|uìhtzáú". [zzzsq]
Kenya, Sumburu district, Suiei Dorobo: "lchipiliongi" [zz7a]
Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo: "njibilongi". [rrras]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, pale-brown tuber to 3-4cm diameter, eaten raw or roasted in hot ash. [zzzsq] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

East Kenya, Suiei Dorobo, root eaten raw in the rainy season and early dry season. [zz7a] Northern Kenya, Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo. Tuber edible. Not an important part of the diet. [rrras]

The reference [zz7a] has disappeared off the internet and I have no idea how reliable it was. Samburu County is in the north and slightly west of centre in Kenya. Matthews Range is in Samburu County. All the plants listed by [zz7a] are also listed by [rrras].

Ceropegia steudneri see ***Ceropegia abyssinica* var. *abyssinica***

***Ceropegia subaphylla* K.Schum.**
Also reported as *Ceropegia botrys* and *Ceropegia nuda,* now considered to be the same species.

Somalia. "These tubers are eaten by man and his livestock, which may account for the extreme rarity of the species." The wording was tricky but I assume the author was referring to this species. [zz71]

***Ceropegia swarupa* (Kishore & Goyder) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma swarupa.*

Tuber eaten raw or cooked in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, S. India. [zz130]

***Ceropegia thunbergii* (N.E.Br.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma thunbergii.*

S. Africa: "Kambaroo, Kambroo".

S. Africa, Karoo, edible tuber. [zz248] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack, vegetable, meal, yeast and sweet preserve. [zzznw]

***Ceropegia tihamana* Chaudhary & Lavranos**
Socotra, Soqotri simplified: " 'ergilo". [rrrbd] Same name as ***Ceropegia affinis.***

Socotra. Same uses as ***Ceropegia affinis*** but more common. [rrrbd]

***Ceropegia togoensis* (Schltr.) M.G.Gilbert**
Reported as *Brachystelma togoense.*

Nigeria, Kaduna State, Birnin Gwari. Collector Ronald Keay noted on the herbarium sheet in 1950:

> "... with "bun-like" tuber about 10cm. diameter and 5cm. thick. ... ...Tuber said to be edible raw." [zzzst]

Nigeria, used vs. dysentery, cough and cold, wounds, stomach ache, typhoid and erectile dysfunction. [zzzss]

***Ceropegia trichantha* Hemsl.**
Southwest China, Shui communities, Shui: "tiau^{35}phau^{33}nu^{ʔ55}",
Chinese: 吊灯花 "diàodēng huā"
(Chinese botanical name for the entire genus *Ceropegia,* = chandelier flower). [zzzij]

Southwest China, Shui communities. Whole plant sometimes used in "xiaoqu", herbal fermentation starters used for making alcoholic drinks. Also used vs. bone fracture and hepatitis. Ornamental. [zzzij]

Ceropegia tuberosa Roxb. or **Ceropegia tuberosa Wall.**
Now assigned to either *Ceropegia candelabrum* L. or *Ceropegia bulbosa* Roxb. but impossible to know to which these were referring.

India, Rajasthan, "Kewda Ki Nal",
Western Rajasthan: "Khadula". [zz222]

Tubers eaten raw or roasted. [zz76] Used as ***Ceropegia bulbosa***. [zz129] Rajasthan, tuber eaten raw or cooked. Tuber powder applied to venomous bite. [zz222]

***Ceropegia turricula* E.A. Bruce**

Eaten in S. Africa, as are "allied species". [zz241]

***Ceropegia variegata* Decne.**
Also reported as *Ceropegia devecchii*.

Somalia, Hargeisa: “marora gel” (= “camel's tail”). [rrrbq]
Yemen, central Abyan, Lawdar, Modyah & Al-Wadhee districts: "Zub-Imbaeer". [zzznu]
Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: " ميبسه - Meyabesa" [fffat]

Somalia, Hargeisa. Notes on a herbarium specimen from 1932 state “Eaten by Somalis for juice”. [rrrbq]

Yemen, central Abyan governate. Fresh young stem pieces eaten vs. impotence and low immunity. [zzznu] Southwest Yemen, Lahij governorate. Notes on 1987 herbarium specimen state: "stems eaten as a laxative.". [rrrbp] Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: aerial parts and water applied externally to abdomen to expel tapeworms. [fffat]

***Ceropegia vincifolia* Hook.**
Previously *Ceropegia hirsuta* var. *vincaefolia* (Hook.) Hook. f

Marathi: "Kandil Kharchudi". [zz80]
Maharashtra: "Kharpudi",
"Khapar-khutti". [zzzpk]

India, Maharashtra. Tubers eaten as food. [zz173] India, Western Ghats, tuber edible. Easy to grow in gardens. [zzzcx] Maharashtra, tuber edible. [zzzpk]

Ceropegia viridis see ***Ceropegia albisepta***

***Ceropegia volubicaulis* Bruyns**
Reported as *Brachystelma volubile.*

India, Andhra Pradesh, Nigidi Reserve Forest, Telugu: "Colanimmata". [zzzsr]

India, Andhra Pradesh, Nigidi Reserve Forest, tubers eaten by locals. [zzzsr]

***Ceropegia woodii* Schltr.**

Xhosa. Stem and leaves vs. chest complaints. [zz157] South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, medicinal, "Nervous - includes use as emetic". No further details. [zzziz]

Commonly grown houseplant with various common names such as "String of Hearts", "Chain of Hearts" and "Rosary Vine". Sold commercially but probably more often propagated in the home and shared by friends.

Taste test: Common enough that I thought I should try it, even if it is not recorded as edible. Three tubers, 6.4g total weight. Raw. Remarkable resemblance to salad radish or baby turnip in texture and taste. Very juicy. Not really mustardy but quite hot but also with a little of the astringency of a Jerusalem artichoke. One tuber, 11g. Boiled for ten minutes. Delicious, no particular taste dominating, no astringency, texture of a lightly-boiled baby carrot that is still firm. Very juicy. [me]

Leaves, 12.5g. Delicious, just acidic enough to be tasty but not excessive. Succulent, juicy and easy to chew. [me] Thanks to Cactus Shop [zz50], who had never used pesticides on the plants they sold to me.

***Chloropetalum denticulatum* (Vahl) Morillo {Asclepiadeae – Gonolobinae}**
Reported as *Matelea viridiflora*, also known as *Matelea denticulata* and *Gonolobus grenadensis.*

Trinidad, French Creole: "pwentan". [zzzld]
Brazil, São Paulo, Ubatuba: "urtiga" (= nettle). [zzzqg]

Trinidad, decoction of root vs. venereal disease. Poultice vs. sores. [zzzld]

One of two known (in the year 2021) species of asclepiad that have true stinging hairs with venom, see also ***Fischeria stellata***. [zzzqg]

***Chthamalia biflora* Decne. {Asclepiadeae – Gonolobinae}**
Reported as *Matelea biflora*.

North America, Oklahoma, Apache, immature fruit and seeds eaten. [zzzed]

North America, Comanche, root paste vs. severe stomach pains, diphtheria and other throat-closing ailments in children. Decoction of thick, white roots vs. ghost sickness, bruises, broken bones and menstrual cramps. [iiilg]
See also ***Chthamalia cynanchoides***.

***Chthamalia cynanchoides* (Engelm. & A.Gray) Morillo**
Reported as *Matelea cynanchoides*.

North America, Comanche, root paste vs. severe stomach pains, diphtheria and other throat-closing ailments in children. Decoction of thick, white roots vs. ghost sickness, bruises, broken bones and menstrual cramps. [iiilg]
See also ***Chthamalia biflora***.

Chthamalia decumbens **(W.D.Stevens) L.O.Alvarado & E.B.Cortez**
Reported as *Matelea decumbens*.

Mexico, Hidalgo: “tlayolotera”. [rrrep]
Hidalgo: “tlalayote”. [rrrep]
border of Hidalgo and Tlaxcala states: “Clalayotera”. [rrrdr]
Hidalgo, 23 km NW of previous: “Tlalayotera”. [rrrds]
Puebla: “cochinitos”. [rrrep]
Puebla: “talayote”. [rrrep]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Hidalgo & Puebla. Fruit eaten. [rrrep] Mexico, border of Hidalgo and Tlaxcala states. Herbarium specimen collected on the 19th of June 1966 had a note:

> “Scandent herb, yellow flowers, fruit
> eaten as conserves--boiled in sugar.
> on hillside and along edges of fields.” [rrrdr]

Mexico. In a 2026 article, Mark Fishbein listed this species as having edible fruit, citing notes on unspecified herbarium specimens. [rrrch] This herbarium specimen [rrrdr] has the same wording as Fishbein reported for ***Chthamalia prostrata***. On this herbarium specimen [rrrdr] the suggested name is “*Matelea* aff. *prostrata*”. WD Stevens included the specimen in his publication of *Matelea decumbens* in 1983 [rrrdt] and left a determination label on it.

Chthamalia nummularia **Decne.**
Mexico, Mexico State, Piedras Blancas, Cerrillo town: “talayote”. [rrrer]
San Antonio Acahualco: “talayotes”. [rrres]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Mexico State, Piedras Blancas, Cerrillo town. Fruits collected for eating fresh, prized for sweet flavor and creamy texture. [rrrer] San Antonio Acahualco. Grows wild in cornfields. Edible. [rrres]

Mexico. In a 2026 article, Mark Fishbein stated that the immature fruits "tasted like peanuts", citing his personal observation and unspecified herbarium specimens. [rrrch]

Chthamalia pedunculata **Decne.**
Reported as *Matelea pedunculata*.

Mexico, near Zimapán: "Xalayote". [zzzmh]

Mexico, near Zimapán, in 1840, the plant collector Henri Guillaume Galeotti reported that the fruit was eaten (French: “fruit se mange”). [zzzmh]

Mexico, Valley of Mexico, hills near Santa Fé. Eugène Bourgeau noted on the herbarium sheet in 1865 that the fruit is edible - French: “le fruit est comestible”. [zzzmi]

***Chthamalia producta* (Torr.) L.O.Alvarado & E.B.Cortez**
Reported as *Matelea producta.*

North America, Chiricahua/Mescalero Apache, seeds eaten fresh or boiled. [iiilg]

***Chthamalia prostrata* (Cav.) L.O.Alvarado & Cortez**
Mexico, Aguascalientes, Mexico State & Querétaro: “talayote”. [rrrep]
Hidalgo: “tlalayote”,
“tlayolotera”. [rrrep]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Hidalgo, Mexico State & Querétaro. Tender young fruit edible. [rrrep]

Mexico. In a 2026 article, Mark Fishbein stated that this species has "fruit eaten as conserves, boiled in sugar", citing notes on unspecified herbarium specimens. [rrrch] See ***Chthamalia decumbens***.

Chlorocodon whiteii see ***Mondia whitei***

***Cibirhiza* spp. {Fockeeae}**
The generic name is derived from the Latin "cibus", plural “cibi” = food. There is a recorded compound form in one ancient word “cibi-” in “cibicida” – a bread-waster, perhaps referring to a useless slave. [zz140] The suffix comes from the Greek "ῥίζη" (rhize = root). [zz142] As neither the fully Latin *Cibiradix* nor the fully Greek *Bromorhiza* are taken as names for genera of plants it seems strange to have chosen the portmanteau version that mixes Greek and Latin. I blame television.

This is not the only irritating thing the author of the name, Peter V. Bruyns, has done. Bruyns has contributed a huge amount to asclepiad science with his prolific botanizing. However, I can't think of another botanist who has was deliberately insulted by the naming of a plant after them. *Caralluma vaduliae* Lavranos was named after a pseudonym used by Bruyns and described as a "particularly unremarkable" species. This followed a scandal when Bruyns was a student. [rrrbu] See also ***Ceropegia* spp.** for the proposal by Bruyns for renaming of all stapeliads, which irked many gardeners and taxonomists.

***Cibirhiza dhofarensis* Bruyns**
Dhofar, Jibbali: “ṣefót”,
“ṣifód”.[rrrbi] [rrrcv]
Dhofari Arabic: “ṣeyfed”. [rrrbi]

Dhofar. All parts eaten. Large leaves appear after rain - eaten raw or as a vegetable, deliciously sweet. Flowers and pods edible. Tuber may grow to the size of a large sweet potato, the most prized part of the plant. Foraged from the end of the rainy season and the three months after the rains end. Skin removed and succulent white flesh eaten, very filling, fine-flavoured and sweet, leaving a delicious aftertaste. [rrrbi] Oman. Edible tubers can grow to 8cm long, 5cm wide. Peeled, eaten raw. Sweet leaves are eaten raw or cooked.[rrrcv] Arabia, stem, leaves and roots eaten as snack food by herders. [zz79a]

Cibirhiza spiculata **Thulin**
Ethiopia, Somali National Region State: "Dhoonbir".
This name is shared with ***Schlechterella abyssinica.***

Tuber edible and searched for by the local population. Consistency and taste reminiscent of raw potatoes. [zz228]

Cionura erecta **(L.) Griseb. {Marsdenieae}**
Iran, Ilam province: "Benjek-kishkoe". [zzzix]

Iran, Ilam province, aerial parts antiparasitic. [zzzix] Syria, used as a poison for murder or suicide. [zzzcs]

Professor Landerer is reported in the BMJ of 1879 to believe in the effectiveness of a remedy for rabies and venomous snakebite held since "olden times" by a monastery on the Greek island of Salamis. Composed of 10 grains (648 mg) of the powdered root bark of *Cionura erecta*, reported as "*Marsdenia erecta* R. Br. (= *Cynanchum erectum* L.)", with ½ - 1 grain (32-65mg) of powdered oriental cantharides (the deadly poisonous and blistering "Spanish Fly"). This was followed by cauterising the wound. [zzzak]

Cochlanthus socotranus see ***Cryptolepis socotrana***

Cosmostigma cordatum **(Poir.) M.R.Almeida {Marsdenieae}**
Reported as *Cosmostigma racemosum.*

India, Marathi: "Shendvel",
"Shendori",
"Márvel",
"Márvivel". [zzzff]
"Jati". [zz80]
Maharashtra: "Shendvel",
"Marvel",
"Jati". [zzzpk]
Malayalam: "Vattu valli". [zzzff]
"Wattou-valli". [zzzpo]
Kannada: "Ghárahuvvo". [zzzff]
Goa: "Ghárphúl". [zzzff]
Tamil: "Perum kahamugan kodi". [zz80]
Northeast Chhattisgarh, Gond tribe: "ChotaKonga". [zzzlv]
(See also "Konga", ***Cynanchum annularium***).

India, Western Coast: flowers are sweet and edible. [zzzff] India, northeast Chhattisgarh, Gond tribe: Flowers eaten. [zzzlv]

The seventh volume of *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1688. One of the plants pictured and described was called *Wattou-valli* in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the *Wattou-valli* as *Cosmostigma racemosum*. [zzzpr] The author of the *Horti Malabarici* described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "The root is like a thin rope, spreading far and wide, the flavour is bitter. Leaves pounded together with Lanja* husk, they dry up long-standing ulcers: the bark with sandalwood & human milk has been applied in the form of nodules†, the most efficacious remedy for burning fever/heat."

* If I understand correctly this is a name for an unripe coconut.

† In the 17th century a "nodule" was a small bag closed with a knot for containing medicinal herbs, for making medicinal preparations or applying them to the body in various ways. Rather like the little muslin bags with a drawstring closure sometimes used for *bouquet garni* in cookery.

In the original Latin:

> "*Radix* funiculosa est longe lateque se dispergens, saporis amari. *Folia* cum cortice *Lanjæ* contrita ulcera inveterata exsiccant: Cortex cum Sandalo & Muliebri lacte in formam noduli adhibitus, præstantissimum Causonis remedium est." [zzzpo]

India, leaves vs. ulcerous sores (disease called Ghâra). Root bark internally vs. passing white lumps of undigested food (Vataka). Five grains (324mg) of powdered root bark three times a day effective vs. dyspepsia with fever and lack of bile in stool. No purgative effect but restored the natural colour of the stool where the usual remedies had failed. Two ounces (57g) of root bark in a biscuit had no ill effects when fed to a dog (size of dog not mentioned). [zzzff]

Maharashtra. Rootbark to stimulate bile, vs. dyspepsia. [zzzpk]

Indo-China. Root vs. gastritis, dyspepsia. [zz177, zzzcv]

Cosmostigma racemosum see ***Cosmostigma cordatum***

Cristobalia australis **(Malme) H.A.Keller & Liede {Asclepiadeae - Gonolobinae}**
Reported as *Gonolobus australis* and *Matelea australis.*

Argentina, Chaco, Vilela: "soonók". [zzzpb]

Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, young fruit eaten boiled or roasted. [zzzpb] South America, Gran Chaco - Fruit eaten by Vilela people. [fffaq]

Cristobalia hispida **(Hook. & Arn.) H.A.Keller & Liede**
Reported as *Gonolobus hispidus*, also known as *Matelea hispida.*

Argentina, Entre Rios, the large, toad-like fruit is eaten. [zzzfe]

Cryptolepis angolensis see ***Cryptolepis oblongifolia***

Cryptolepis arbuscula **(Radcl.-Sm.) Venter {Periplocoideae}**
Previously *Mitolepis arbuscula*.

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "mi'azihil" (= "spindle", see uses).
"miyshit" (also used for Socotran pomegranate).
"naminah".
"gissoh",
"jissoh" (= "small-leaved nibble").
Also *Euphorbia schweinfurthii* - it also has white latex.
"meyrih". Plural: " 'emrihor".
Also used of ***Cryptolepis socotrana***, ***Stephanotis arabica***, ***Vincetoxicum linifolium*** and several plants from other families: *Cocculus pendulus* (Menispermaceae), *Euphorbia obcordata* and *Euphorbia socotrana*. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Same names and uses as ***Cryptolepis intricata***. Green underbark eaten as food and for its sweetness. Quite filling and important in hungrier areas. Leaves edible with sweet aftertaste. Leaf and bark as famine food. Before sugar was easily available the underbark and leaves were much liked for their sweetness. Latex chewed, called *shahaz*, a name for frankincense and other plant gums or exudations. [rrrbd]

Livestock feeding on the plant produce a milk with a rich and sweet flavour and the animals can go longer without water. Bees feeding on the flowers produce a honey of superior quality without a trace of bitterness. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Bark hit with a rock then a stick is used to collect the latex. Skin cut to make it bleed then latex dripped directly on the affected area vs. ringworm and fungal diseases. Sometimes the latex is mixed with salt and ground, dried *Euclea divinorum* root. Latex applied vs. raised neck glands and glandular swellings. Copious latex from a large plant smeared on the chest vs. chest pains and pain from chronic cough. Inner bark chewed as a tonic, to clear the head in head colds or vs. headaches. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Reasonable firewood. Because it burns very slowly, a log was placed in the ash and embers of a dying fire so the fire could be reignited by blowing on the still-burning log with fresh wood, some time later. Twigs and bark make excellent tinder and kindling, staying dry in damp weather. [rrrbd]

Herding staffs are made from thicker, straight branches. Slimmer branches in devices for weaning kids and lambs. Twigs whittled into *kohl* applicators. Made into "bows" for beating wool to prepare it for spinning. Carved into spindles for spinning wool. Stem trimmed, sharpened and the end notched to make a pen used with local inks. [rrrbd]

Cryptolepis balansae see ***Cryptolepis buchananii***

Cryptolepis baumii see ***Cryptolepis oblongifolia***

Cryptolepis brazzaei see ***Cryptolepis oblongifolia***

Cryptolepis buchananii ***R.Br. ex Roem. & Schult.***
Also reported as *Cryptolepis dubia.*

Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai: "ker en on". [zzzpu]
Sri Lanka, Sinhala: "Wel-rukattana". [zzzds]
India, Meghalaya: "Durikhal",
"Kynbat Mangpor". [zzzxk]
Malayalam: "Katu-pal-valli." [zzzpm]
Maharashtra: "Setakavali",
"Kavali". [zzzpk]
NW Ahmednagar: "Mothi Kavali". [rrrat]
Tamil Nadu: "paalkodi",
"karunkodi". [zz107]
Nepal, Behulibans: Nepali & Magar: "Dudhe",
"Gaisinge". [zzzir]
China: 古鉤藤 "gu gou teng" (= "ancient hook vine", "hook vine" is *Uncaria rhynchophylla*, Rubiaceae). [zz141]

The ninth volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1689. One of the plants pictured and described was called "Katu-pal-valli" in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the plant as *Cryptolepis buchananii*. [zzzpr] The author of the *Horti Malabarici* described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "This plant, boiled in oil, corrects the faults of the eyes; the swellings of the feet, which the superstition of this people derives from the hidden forces of an enchantment, causes them to vanish; where the pounded leaves of these plants are applied to the affected parts."

In the original Latin:

> "Planta hæc *oleo* incocta oculorum vitia emendat ; pedum tumores, quos ab incantamenti occultis viribus, derivat populi hujus superstitio, evanescere facit ; ubi trita hujus plantæ folia affectis partibus applicantur." [zzzpm]

China. Roots and fruits vs. chills and oedema. [zz141]

Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Root extract, half glass orally early in the morning vs. fever until cured. [rrrat] India, Tamil Nadu, stem latex 5-10 drops applied vs. wounds. [zz107] India, Tamil Nadu, Tiruchirappalli District, Pachamalai Hills, root vs. anaemia and jaundice. [zzzuk] Karnataka, Central Western Ghats, root and bark vs. eczema, herpes, pruritis, scabies. [zzzup] India, Meghalaya: stem vs. cramps. [zzzxk] India, wood used in indigenous medicine. [zzzcv] Eastern India, Santals, used vs. sores, ascites, dropsy, anasarca, cholera, dysentery, body pain and snakebite. [zzzlf]

Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai, leaves and vines from forest used for medicine. [zzzpu]

Nepal, Behulibans, 4-5 teaspoons of stem juice twice a day ve. diarrhoea and chest inflammation. [zzzir]

India, source of fibre for cordage. [zzzcv] Maharashtra, fibre for cordage and cloth. [zzzpk] China, poisonous to domestic animals. [zz177]

***Cryptolepis calophylla* (Baill.) L.Joubert & Bruyns**
One synonym is *Periploca calophylla* (Baill.) Roberty from 1953 but that name is illegitimate. This plant is exclusively African in origin and should not be confused with ***Periploca calophylla* (Wight) Falc.** from South Asia, which was named in 1841. This African plant reported as *Omphalogonus nigritanus* and *Omphalogonus calophyllus*.

Zanzibar, source of rubber but latex difficult to gather. [zz237]

May have been used to adulterate rubber. Yields a fibre for fishing lines, nets, etc. [zz59]

***Cryptolepis decidua* (Planch. ex Benth.) N.E.Br.**
Reported as *Curroria decidua*.

Namibia, Herero: "ehambambwa".
Himba: "ehambwa".
Damara/Nama: "/hinis",
"/girihaib".
Afrikaans: "bokhorinkie". [zzzsl]

Namibia. Wilhelmstal, Damara root decoction vs. stomach, intestine and liver pains, vomiting and obstipation (gut blockage). Schwarzrand, Maltahöhe, Nama, root decoction vs. gastro-enteric ailments, laxative but also vs. diarrhoea. Large amounts of food should be eaten with it to avoid an "explosion". Kaokoland, Kunene, Himba, cattle given root to stimulate milk production. Plant can cause poisoning in cattle. Root used vs. digestive trouble. [zzzsl]

Cryptolepis dubia see ***Cryptolepis buchananii***

***Cryptolepis intricata* (Balf.f.) Venter**
Previously *Mitolepis intricata.*

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "mi'azihil" (= "spindle", see uses).
"miyshit" (also used for Socotran pomegranate).
"naminah".
"gissoh",
"jissoh" (= "small-leaved nibble").
Also *Euphorbia schweinfurthii* - it also has white latex.
"meyrih". Plural: " 'emrihor".
Also used of ***Cryptolepis socotrana***, ***Stephanotis arabica***, ***Vincetoxicum linifolium*** and several plants from other families: *Cocculus pendulus* (Menispermaceae), *Euphorbia obcordata* and *Euphorbia socotrana*. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Same names and uses as ***Cryptolepis arbuscula***. [rrrbd]

Cryptolepis laxiflora see ***Cryptolepis sinensis***

Cryptolepis linearis see ***Cryptolepis oblongifolia***

Cryptolepis macrophylla **(Radcl.-Sm.) Venter**
Previously *Curroria macrophylla*.

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "milihil" (rare),
"eqqihiyn" (Plural: " 'aqahan"), "gheqqihiyn"
(also used for *Cocculus pendulus* and *Secamone* spp.).
"meyrih". Plural: " 'emrihor".
Also used of ***Cryptolepis socotrana***, ***Stephanotis arabica***, ***Vincetoxicum linifolium*** and several plants from other families: *Cocculus pendulus* (Menispermaceae), *Euphorbia obcordata* and *Euphorbia socotrana*. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Sprigs of flowers are sweet-smelling and are tucked into clothing and hair. Smelling sweetly fragrant plants held to protect against noxious air and infection. [rrrbd]

On the island of Abd al Kuri, the charcoal is powdered and applied vs. contusions, swellings (including mumps) and inflammation. Occasionally on open wounds to staunch the bleeding. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Camels feeding heavily on this plant give a lot of rich, sweet milk. On the island of Abd al Kuri goats feeding on it give slightly bitter milk. Animals eating it can go longer without water. Bees like the flowers. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Reasonable firewood but burns quickly. Makes good charcoal. Herding staffs are made from thicker, straight stems. Dead wood used to make the vertical firestick with *Euphorbia balsamifera* wood providing the horizontal. [rrrbd] Made into "bows" for beating wool to prepare it for spinning. Flexible branches used for the wooden rim of leather watering buckets. Suitable crooked pieces cut for fodder hooks, to get foliage within reach. [rrrbd]

Cryptolepis monteiroae see ***Stomatostemma monteiroae***

Cryptolepis longiflora see ***Cryptolepis oblongifolia***

Cryptolepis nigrescens (Wennberg) L.Joubert & Bruyns
Reported as *Parquetina nigrescens*, *Periploca nigrescens* and mistakenly as *Periploca canescens* and *Periploca canariensis*, names unknown to botanists.

Ghana, Ashanti: "aba-kamo",
"aba-kama". [zzzbr]
Ejisu-Juaben Municipality: "Abakamo". [zzzia]
Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), Nékédié: "Di Titi",
Gouro & Shien: "Urogouédou". [zzzfa]
Democratic Republic of Congo, Kiyombe: "Kanga lubuma". [zzzpz]
Ngwaka: "Ndukukpili".
Ngombe: "Mombangu".
Budja: "Litalia". [zzzqa]
Central Africa: “Loliki”. [rrrca]

Ghana, Liberia, leaves and latex vs. rickets, diarrhoea and skin lesions. Whole plant to stupefy fish. [zzzag] Southern Ghana, Ejisu-Juaben Municipality, leaf paste topically for family planning. Ground stem bark applied vs. wounds, snakebite. Stem bark squeezed, orally vs. piles. [zzzia]

Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), vs. jaundice, infusion vs. menstrual troubles alone or with *Mussaenda erythrophylla* (Rubiaceae) and *Tristemma virusanum* (Melastomataceae). [zzzfa] Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), roots pounded with Guinea pepper as suppository vs. gonorrhoea. Leaf infusion drunk vs. gonorrhoea. Leaf juice with *Capsicum* (hopefully Sweet not Chili [me]) pepper as enema vs. menstrual trouble. Fresh leaves rubbed or pounded, macerated in cold water, fluid as wash for rachitic or sickly children. [zzzbr]

Nigeria, powdered root applied vs. snakebite or as decoction in doses of one cigarette-tinful. Congo Basin, plant probably used as arrow poison. [zzzbr]

French Equatorial Africa (now Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, the Republic of Congo and Gabon), milky latex as arrow poison. Leaves (which cause a burning sensation) applied to heal wounds. Ubangi (tributary of Congo River) region, plant as arrow poison. Liberia, leaf latex vs. diarrhoea. Sierra Leone, scorched young leaves rubbed on skin vs. craw-craw. Mendes, latex vs. skin trouble. [zzzbr]

Democratic Republic of Congo, leaf decoction, one glass twice a day by mouth vs. bleeding from miscarriage. [zzzpz] Democratic Republic of Congo, burnt trunk bark with salt applied after scarification vs. snakebite. Macerated leaf orally vs. mucus discharge. Powdered stems applied after scarification vs. rheumatism. Macerated leaf sweetened with sugar orally vs. ascites (excess build-up of fluid in the abdomen). [zzzqa] Latex used to soak arrowheads to stupefy monkeys. The author did not believe this as the latex had no effect on chickens. [rrrca]

Samples received in Brussels in 1905 contained 88.82% rubber. Central Congo, latex curdled by boiling with lemon juice or other coagulant. Large experimental plantations of the vine were made. [rrrca] Another author reported the plant as absolutely without any economic value. [rrrcb] Ivory Coast, Congo, black rubber of medium quality. Misreported as *Periploca canescens* and *Periploca canariensis* in these books. [rrrcc, zz237]

***Cryptolepis oblongifolia* (Meisn.) Schltr.**

Benin, Kotokoli: "Tarèyka". [zzzob]

N. Nigeria, Hausa: "k'ahwan ba'di", "k'ahwan batsi". [zz59]
Fulani: "wurkunu weina'be". [zz59]

Democratic Republic of Congo, Kongo-Central, Kikongo: "ndulunsi", "ndulunsi i nseke", "mvulumuna". [zzzpy]

Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "!àò!hútcàrà". [zzzsq]
Kavango, Mbukushu: "musinga". [zzzsl]
Afrikaans: "bokhoring" (= goat horn). [zzzsl]

Swaziland: "Crawcraw Vine" (see also *Tacazzea apiculata var. benedicta*). [zz144]

Southern Malawi: "bwazi",
"chibwabwa",
"katunga",
"nahe",
"napose",
"nyananga".
"nyanga wa gwapi" (= duiker horn, for the twin seed pods, see ***Margaretta rosea***). [zz160]

Nigeria, said to be eaten in famine at the end of the dry season but the author considers this to be a confusion with other related tuberous species. [zz59]

Tanganyika, fruit eaten. [zzzbr] Democratic Republic of Congo, Kongo-Central, fruit reported to be eaten. [zzzpy]

Edible leaves. [zz144] Leaves made into a slimy relish "Thelele". [zz160] Benin, Kotokoli, Tchimberi village, used as a vegetable. [zzzob]

Root boiled and taken vs. griping. Stem pieces for smearing cosmetics on the face. Fulani youths wear it as a charm to attract affection or popularity. Reported as *Cryptolepis nigritana* N.E. Br. [zz59] Tanganyika - now Tanzania and Northern Rhodesia - now Zambia. Root medicinal. [zzzbr] Namibia, Okavango Bushmen, 20km east of Rundu, a little latex dripped into diseased eyes twice daily. Inner portion of roots mashed and left in warm water, vs. eye diseases. [zzzsl]

Southern Africa, Nyanja, root, roasted and powdered rubbed into cuts on forehead vs. headache, shoulders and arms vs. rheumatism. Decoction of leaf vs. same diseases. Karanga, root infusion vs. urinary difficulty, bladder troubles and pain. [zz241]

"Like a spear it overcomes any disease." Roots boiled vs. bilharzia, headache, venereal diseases including gonorrhoea and vs. "all ailments". Reported as *Ectadiopsis oblongifolia*. [zz160] Angola, medicinal. Reported as *Cryptolepis brazzaei*. [zz241]

Democratic Republic of Congo, Bas-Congo, vine for fastening horizontal laths and roof beams when house building. Used for making fish traps, etc. [zzzpw] E. Africa, tough, stringy bark used for fishing nets. [zz59] South Rhodesia - now Zimbabwe. Stem fibre for fishing lines, bridles, etc. [zzzbr] Used to make rope. [zz160] NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, cotton-like fibres from the outer layer of the root are prepared by pounding, peeling from the inside of the root and twisting to make cords for ornament or baskets for berry-picking, etc. [zzzsq] Seed floss as stuffing material. [zz241]

Cryptolepis obtusa **K.Schum.**
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "muṱanzwakhamelo",
"ṱhanamaswi".
Afrikaans: "bobbejaantou" (= baboon rope). [zzzov]

South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, leaf as vegetable. [zzzov] Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw]

Mozambique, aqueous extract of roots traditionally as anti-abortive, worm-killer and vs. abdominal pains. [zzzah]

***Cryptolepis sanguinolenta* (Lindl.) Schltr.**
Reported as *Cryptolepis triangularis*.

N. Nigeria, Hausa: "gangamau" (= yellow dye, used of turmeric and others). [zz59]
French Guinea, Fulani: "delboi",
Bambara: "ouidoukoi",
Dioulé: "nombon" (possibly used of many twining plants). [zz59]
Sierra Leone, Mende: "kpŏkpŏ-yangolei" (more correctly for *Periploca*). [zz59]
Burkina Faso: "Longlose". [zzzke]
Uganda, Bulamogi: "kafulu",
"muganga kiba". [zz223]

Burkina Faso, leaf gathered from the wild and eaten in the rainy season. Tastes good. [zzzke]

Fresh sap is orange-red, drying to red, hence sanguinolent (bloody) in the specific name. Root sold in markets as dye. Dyes goat leather yellow with tamarind fruit. [zz59] Used as dye from West Africa to Angola. [zz241]

West Africa, infusion of dried, powdered roots vs. malaria and breast tumours. [zzzbo] Roots have shown clinical efficacy vs. malaria. [zzzbq] Roots contain the indoloquinoline alkaloids cryptolepine and neocryptolepine, which have been shown to have anti-malarial action and chemical analogues are being developed from them [zzzbp]. Uganda, Bulamogi. Root decoction drunk vs. diarrhoea. Root chewed and rubbed on wound vs. snake bite. Root chewed vs. hernia, premature ejaculation, colic pain in babies. [zz223] Belgian Congo (now Democratic Republic of Congo). Root as stomachic. [zz241]

This plant is one of many used long-term with years-long courses of antibiotics by Americans who have convinced themselves that they are suffering from "Chronic Lyme Disease" with *Babesia* co-infection. The only references I am giving here are to articles denying the existence of the continuing infection and warning against antibiotic treatment. [zzzbs] Though there might be damage after the bacterial infection is cleared, 70% of such patients in one study had never contracted Lyme disease. [zzzbt]

***Cryptolepis sinensis* (Lour.) Merr.**
China: 白葉藤 "bai ye teng" (= white leaf vine) [zz141]

China. Stem and leaf applied vs. snake bite, traumatic injury and scabies. [zz141]

China. Bast fibre from inner bark for ropes. [zz141]

***Cryptolepis socotrana* (Balf.f.) Venter**
Previously *Cochlanthus socotranus* and *Socotranthus socotranus*.

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "dowqish",
"dowgish",
"dagish".
"meyrih". Plural: " 'emrihor".
See also ***Cynanchum gerrardii***, ***Stephanotis arabica*** and ***Vincetoxicum linifolium***. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Reasonable firewood but pungent smoke so little used for cooking. Hard wood useful for implements. Herding staffs are made from thicker, straight stems and also for heavy camel-driving sticks. Suitable crooked pieces cut for fodder hooks, to get foliage within reach. [rrrbd]

The flesh of goats browsing on this plant develop an unpleasant taste, especially the viscera and cooking water. Bees like the flowers. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Latex used like that of the multipurpose *Euphorbia balsamifera* (fixative, medicinal, etc.) but regarded as inferior. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Sprigs of flowers are sweet-smelling and are tucked into clothing and hair. Smelling sweetly fragrant plants held to protect against noxious air and infection. [rrrbd]

Cryptolepis triangularis see ***Cryptolepis sanguinolenta***

Cryptolepis volubilis **(Balf.f.) O.Schwartz**
Previously *Ectadiopsis volubilis* and *Ectadiopsis brevifolia*

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "gisso". [rrrbd]
"ziktih". [rrrbd]
"eqqihiyn", " 'agihin"), "gheqqihiyn"
(also used for *Cocculus pendulus* (Menispermaceae) and ***Secamone*** **spp.**). [rrrbd]

Socotra. Sprigs of flowers are sweet-smelling and are tucked into clothing and hair. Smelling sweetly fragrant plants held to protect against noxious air and infection. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Animals feeding on it can go longer without water. Bees feeding on the flowers produce a honey of superior quality without a trace of bitterness. Bees nest in the thick foliage of the shrubs. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Made into "bows" for beating wool to prepare it for spinning. Flexible branches used for the wooden rim of leather watering buckets. Suitable crooked pieces cut for fodder hooks, to get foliage within reach. [rrrbd]

Cryptostegia grandiflora **Roxb. ex R.Br. {Periplocoideae}**
Madagascar, "Lombira rubber plant". [zzzbr]
Sakalava and Mahafaly: "Lombiry". [zzzrd]
Sakalava and Tankarana: "Lombiro". [zzzrd]
India, Bombay area: "Vilayti-vakundi". [zzzcr]
Maharashtra: "Vilayati-vakundi". [zzzpk]

Madagascar, has been used for criminal poisoning. Latex in milk as a poison. [zzzrd Madagascar, very toxic, criminal poison and for killing vermin. [zzzbr] Poisoning can occur just from pruning the plant. [zzznd]

Madagascar, latex, an excellent healing agent, applied vs. ulcers, stubborn wounds and lesions from scabies. [zzzrd]

India, root paste/powder vs. snakebite. [zzzaf] Maharashtra, latex with turmeric powder vs. eczema. [zzzpk]

West Africa, latex resolves tumours. [zzzag] New Caledonia, root vs. wounds. [zzzew] Southeastern Ethiopia (introduced from Madagascar), Mana Angetu District, fresh or dried leaves applied(?) vs. sores. [zzzjb] Reported in error as "*Cryptostegia grandifolia* Roxb. ex R. Br."

Madagascar, beautiful stem fibres used for fishing line and textiles. [zzzrd] Source of strong, fine fibre resembling flax making finest yarn. [zzzco] Madagascar, stem fibre for fishing lines. [zzzbr]

Madagascar, extremely bright white floss from seeds used as tinder. [zzzrd]

Thailand, floriculture. [zzzsm]

Rubber resin-rich (a bad thing for rubber) and poor yield. [zzzbr] Source of rubber in World War II. Resistant to drought and heat. Studied as a potential biofuel crop. Dried flowering plant contains 6.5% fat content, 2.13% hydrocarbon, mostly rubber (or 2.3% [zzzaq]). Good source of industrial chemical feedstock and high energy biofuel. [zzzap] 1.79% hydrocarbon/rubber by fresh weight. [zzzar] Like ***Cryptostegia madagascariensis***, introduced to tropical America (especially Mexico and Haiti) during World War II for rubber production but quickly dropped due to difficulties in cultivation and rubber extraction. [zzzku] This species is the rubber producer for the south-west of Madagascar, *Cryoptostegia madagascariensis* is from the north-west of the island. [fffao]

Cryptostegia madagascariensis **Bojer ex Decne.**

Madagascar: "Lombiro". [zzzev]
Sakalava and Mahafaly: "Lombiry".
Sakalava and Tankarana: "Lombiro". [zzzrd]

Madagascar, has been used for criminal poisoning. Latex in milk as a poison. [zzzrd] Madagascar. Responsible for many criminal poisonings. [zzzev]

Madagascar. Stem bark used to produce “country rum” - “le rhum du pays”. [fffao]

Madagascar. Latex an excellent healing agent, applied vs. ulcers, stubborn wounds and lesions from scabies. [zzzrd, fffao] Hova. Mixed with grated marovelo (*Ipomoea* spp., Convolvulaceae) and amiana (*Urera* spp. now *Laportea* and *Obetia*, Urticaceae) root pulp to apply vs. sprains and fractures. [fffao]

Madagascar, beautiful stem fibres used for fishing line and textiles. [zzzrd] Madagascar. Fibres for fishing lines. Seed fluff as tinder. Sakalava - fibres make excellent fabric as good as that from ramie. [fffao] Madagascar, bright white floss from seeds used as tinder. [zzzrd]

Madagascar, provides a mediocre rubber but a fine fibre. [zzzdq] Produces the majority of Madagascar's fairly good rubber. [fffao] Used in the last war for both rubber and textiles. [zzzev] Like ***Cryptostegia grandiflora***, introduced to tropical America (esp. Mexico and Haiti) during World War II for rubber production but quickly dropped due to difficulties in cultivation and rubber extraction. [zzzku] This species is the rubber producer for the north-west of Madagascar, *Cryoptostegia grandiflora* is from the south-west of the island. [fffao]

Curroria decidua see ***Cryptolepis decidua***

Curroria macrophylla see ***Cryptolepis macrophylla***

Curroria volubilis see ***Buckollia volubilis***

***Cynanchum* spp. {Asclepiadeae - Cynanchinae}**

For a review of the very varied chemistry of some *Cynanchum* species, see [zzzip].

Madagascar, Lokar Reserve: "Hafiboka" fruit and "Mandrio" ("Vaizaha") leaf for spiritual purposes. *Folotsia* sp. (now *Cynanchum*), Madagascar, Lokar Reserve: "Tohitohy", whole plant medicinal vs. digestive problems, skin infections. [zzzjl]

All *Glossonema* species (now included in *Cynanchum*) reported to have copious latex but it is sweet and innocuous. Sweet, fleshy fruit is a valued prize, especially among herd boys. [zz47]

Northern Kenya, Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo. "nadongerr". Stem edible. [rrras]

See *Ceropegia* spp. for confusion of *Cynanchum* sp. "langarboi" due to listing as "C. sp." Fruit edible. Neither are an important part of the diet. See ***Cynanchum hastifolium*** and ***Cynanchum insipidum***. [rrras]

***Cynanchum abyssinicum* Decne.**
Kipsangali: "maneriat". [zzzdi]
Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District: "Muka Aro". [zzzjb]

Used as relish. Leaves for tonic tea. [zzzdi]

Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, fresh or dried leaves vs. sores. [zzzjb]

Cynanchum acidum see ***Sarcostemma acidum***

Cynanchum acuminatifolium see ***Vincetoxicum acuminatifolium***

***Cynanchum acutum* L.**
Turkey, Erzincan: "sütlüsarmaşik" (= milk ivy). [zzzka]
Spain: "Matacán" (= hound killer).
"mataperros" (= dog killer).
"corregüela borde" (= vulgar bindweed).
"escamonea de Montpeller" (= Montpellier scammony).
"escamonea del país" (= country scammony).
"habas de perro" (= dog broad beans) and many more variations. [zzzde]
France: "La scammonée de Montpellier". [zzzdj]
Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, Brahui/Balochi: "Wal" (a common name for asclepiad vines), Balochi: "Aichk". [zzzcp]
South-eastern Sudan, Blue Nile State: "Irg Eldem". [zzzjh]

The posthumous and much expanded 1644 edition of the “Cruydt-boeck” (Herb-Book) by Rembert Dodoens detailed the medicinal use of this plant in Europe.[rrrdw] It was not mentioned in the first edition published in 1554.[rrrdv] I will leave it to experts in historical Dutch medical terminology and typography to translate those details, I am afraid. In the 1644 edition, ***Periploca graeca***, ***Vincetoxicum hirundinaria*** and ***Vincetoxicum nigrum*** were also mentioned.

Greece, Mount Pelion in Thessaly (where Asklepios was said to have been taught the art of healing and herblore by the centaur Cheiron). Regarded as toxic but used occasionally as medicine. A decoction of the leaves and stems of used in small doses to help against rheumatism and arthritis and to promote perspiration. [zz2a]

Turkey, Erzincan, leaf applied to drain pus from wounds. [zzzka]

Spain, source of Montpellier scammony. The latex curdled to a brownish-grey or almost black solid has purgative properties at 1-1.5 grammes. [zzzaa]

Source of Montpellier scammony reported as *Cynanchum monspeliacum*, a drastic purgative traded widely. [zzzdh] Almost as strong as Syrian scammony (from a *Convolvulus*) but weaker. [zzzdj]

South-eastern Sudan, Blue Nile State, root maceration orally vs. bilharzia. [zzzjh]

Common, vigorous and invasive (though native) weed in agricultural land and especially orchards throughout most of Spain. It is easy to tear off the abundant soft vines but the plant is difficult to exterminate due to the tubers. The latex smells of evil Copydex glue – a brand from the UK of water-based rubber cement stabilised with ammonia. [me]

***Cynanchum acutum* ssp. *sibiricum* (Willd.) Rech.f.**
China: 戟葉鵝絨藤 "ji ye e rong teng" (= halberd-leaved ***Cynanchum chinense***). [zz141]

China, plant vs. swellings. [zz141] Whole plant vs. swollen carbuncles. [zzzip]

***Cynanchum altiscandens* K.Schum.**
Kipsangali: "Sandab-Ngingichet". [zzzdi]
Kenya, Masai: "Ngobito-Ol'dorobo",
"Sinande". [zzzdi]
Maasai Mara, Sekeneni Valley, Maasai: "Ormeko Orsage". [zzzoj]

Kenya, Maasai Mara, Sekeneni Valley, Maasai. Leaf bitten and applied vs. wound. [zzzoj]

Kenya, Maasai Mara, Sekeneni Valley, Maasai. Young girls use as ornament. String for building. [zzzoj] Wandorobo, stems to sew the ends of beehives. Browsed by all domestic stock. [zzzdi]

Cynanchum amplexicaule see ***Vincetoxicum amplexicaule***

***Cynanchum annularium* (Roxb.) Liede & Khanum**
Previously known as *Holostemma ada-kodien*, *Holostemma brunonianum*, *Holostemma annularium* and *Holostemma rheedei.*

China: 鉸剪藤 "jiao jian teng" (= scissors vine). [zz141]
Pakistan: "Tultuli". [zz14]
India, Gujarat, Vasava tribe: "nanshiri",
"meethi shir". [zzzwy]
Hindi: "Chhirvel". [zz80]
Marathi: "Dudruli",
"Shidodi". [zz80]
Maharashtra: "Duduri",
"Shindodi",
"Tultuli". [zzzpk]
Western Ghats: "Adapathiyan". [zzzgs]
Tamil: "Palay kirai". [zz80]
Tamil Nadu, Dindigul district, Thoppampatti: "Palaykeerai". [zzzse]
Malayalam: "Ada kodien". [zz80, zzzpm]
Telugu: "Palagurugu". [zz80]
Sanskrit: "Jivanti",
"Arkapushpi". [zz80]
North-east Chhattisgarh, Oraon tribe: "Konga"
(see also "ChotaKonga", ***Cosmostigma racemosum***). [zzzlv]

The ninth volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1689. One of the plants pictured and described was called Ada-Kodien in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the plant as *Holostemma ada-kodien*, now known as *Cynanchum annularium*. [zzzpr]

The author of the *Horti Malabarici* described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "The root, powdered and sprinkled on the eyes can remove little clouds, or boiled with butter and drunk. The bulb with the roots of wild palm and Scelengu[a] ground and with the powder of Ada Kodien sewn in a cloth, adding a small amount of Sandalwood, black Jeribili[b] and fresh butter, by slow fire reduced to a waxy consistency, for any eye defects, taken in the morning and evening. Sandalwood and sugar mixed and reduced into powder and formed into pills, cures bilious diseases of the eyes; or, finally, if with the leaves of the figs of hell,[c] root of Talu-Dama,[d] first in water, then boiled in cow's milk and sugar, it helps any eye disease; for the strength of this plant is wholly ophtalmic".

[a] I could not find out what this is but "kilangu" is used in the present day for a wide variety of edible tubers like sweet potato, yam, cassava and *Amorphophallus* and "kelengu" in the *Horti Malabarici* for medicinal tubers. Kedangu (*Sesbania bispinosa*) is well within the possible range of spelling, in that case.

[b] Iribeli? *Coleus amboinicus*? Kala Jiri? (black Jiri) *Vernonia anthelmintica*, *Nigella sativa*, *Nesaea lanceolata*?

[c] *Ricinus communis*

[d] *Boerhavia diffusa*

In the original Latin:

> "*Radix* pulverisata & oculis inspersa nubeculas aufert, vel cum butyro cocta & epota. *Bulbus* cum radice *Palmæ* agreftis & *Scelengu* tritus & cum pulvere *Ada Kodien* in panno consutus, adjecto modico, *Sandali*, *Jeribili* nigræ & recenti butyro lento igne ad ceræ consistentiam redactus, pro quovis oculorum vitio mane & vesperi sumitur : Idem cytrino *Sandalo* ac *saccharo* mixtus, in pulverem redactus, & in pillulas formatus oculorum pathemata ex bile sanat: vel denique si cum foliis *Ficuum Inferni*, radice *Talu-Dama* primum in aqua, dein in vaccino *lacte* decoquatur & *saccharo* misceatur, quovis oculorum morbo opitulatur : vires enim hujus plantæ plane ophtalmicæ sunt." [zzzpm]

As *Holostemma ada-kodien*:
Pakistan. Flowers and flower buds are eaten as vegetables. [zz14]

Pakistan. Roots medicinal. [zz14] India, root tuber powder with goat's milk for sexual potency. [zzzaf] India, leaves or roots externally vs. oedema, wounds, skin diseases and inflammation. [zz80] India Western Ghats, prized and over-collected, used for maintaining youthful vigour and potency. Root tubers vs. eye diseases, inflammations of the testicles, cough, fever, burning sensation, stomachache and as expectorant, tonic, stimulant and to promote milk production. [zzzgs] India, Tamil Nadu, Dindigul district, Thoppampatti, root powder and decoction orally vs. spermatorrhoea and fever, as laxative, stomachic and ophthalmic. [zzzse]

China, decoction of all parts induces lactation. [zz141]

As *Holostemma annularium* or *Holostemma annulare*:
India, Gujarat, Vasava tribe. Tender leaves as vegetables. Flowers are sweet and edible [zzzwy]

India, Gujarat, Vasava tribe. Leaves and roots vs. menstrual disorders and period pain. [zzzwy] Maharashtra, plant sweet, used vs. ulcers, biliousness and Kapha diseases of blood. [zzzpk]

As *Holostemma rheedei*:
India, North-east Chhattisgarh, Oraon tribe: Flowers eaten. [zzzlv] India, central portion of the flower sweet and edible. Twin pods a favourite vegetable. [zzzff]

India. Roots used for a cooling and alterative effect in gonorrhoea. [zzzff]

Cynanchum arboreum see ***Leptadenia arborea***

Cynanchum arenarium **Jum. & H.Perrier**
Reported as *Voharanga madagascariensis*.

Malagasy, Tandroy: "vahiranga" (= dread-vine, from its toxicity).
The same name is used by the Sakalava and Bara for *Adenia boinensis* (Passifloraceae), also possibly used as an ordeal poison. [zzzrd]

Madagascar. Possibly used in the past as an ordeal poison. [zzzrd]

Cynanchum ascyrifolium see ***Vincetoxicum acuminatifolium***

Cynanchum atratum see ***Vincetoxicum atratum***

Cynanchum atropurpureum see ***Schizoglossum atropurpureum***

Cynanchum auriculatum see ***Vincetoxicum auriculatum***

***Cynanchum blyttioides* Liede**
Somalia: "Sod Keh". [zzzdi]

Somalia. Fruits edible with nutty flavour. Fruit and latex medicinal. [zzzdi]

***Cynanchum boudieri* H.Lév. & Vaniot**
Also reported as *Cynanchum taiwanianum*.

China: 折冠牛皮消 "zhe guan niu pi xiao" (= Dispel broken crown cowhide?). [zz141]

Taiwan, root vs. tumours. [zzzas]

China, root tubers vs. infant malnutrition due to gut parasites, gastric/duodenal ulcers, kidney infection and neurasthenia. [zz141]

***Cynanchum boveanum* Decne.**
Reported as *Glossonema boveanum*.

Burkina Faso, Baskoure:	"loguinlosido". [zz165]
Western Sahara:	"achacan". [zz84]
Algerian Sahara, Aïr:	"echoko". [zz77]

Burkina Faso, leaf eaten as sauce in the wet season. [zzzsp] Western Sahara, fruit eaten, called "gron achakán". [zz84] Algerian Sahara, leaves, flower buds and fruits eaten raw. [zz77]

Burkina Faso, whole plant powdered decoction as antiemetic and vs. sexual weakness. [zz165]

***Cynanchum boveanum* subsp. *nubicum* (Decne.) Khanum & Liede**
Reported as *Glossonema nubicum* and *Glossonema boveanum* ssp. *nubicum.*

N. Nigeria,	Hausa:	"taringi'da",
		"tatari'da".
	Fulani:	"chakum chako". [zz59]

N. Nigeria, famine food. Ghana, leaves eaten raw. [zz47] Nigeria, flowering tops and fruit eaten raw. [zz59, zz110]

Taken by women to increase lactation. [zz59]

Cynanchum bungei see ***Vincetoxicum bungei***

Cynanchum callialatum **Buch.-Ham. ex Wight**
Nepal, Bantar: "Kauwaloli". [zzzdp]
India, Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Kavali". [rrrat]
Tamil Nadu, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Vepadalkodi". [zzztf]

Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. 3-4 fresh leaves eaten vs. high fever. [rrrat] India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, three drops of latex with milk orally for five days vs. mouth and intestinal ulcers. [zzztf] Nepal, Bantar, seed used vs. nipple infection with bleeding in domestic animals. [zzzdp]

Cynanchum caudatum (Miq.) Maxim. see ***Cynanchum maximoviczii***
but not *Cynanchum caudatum* Vell. which is *Orthosia virgata*, not included in this book.

Cynanchum chekiangense see ***Vincetoxicum chekiangense***

Cynanchum chinense **R.Br.**
Inner Mongolia, Arhorchin Mongol Herdsmen: "imaan eber". [zzzju]
China: 鹅绒藤 "e rong teng" (= goose lint vine)". [zzzau]

Inner Mongolia, Arhorchin Mongol Herdsmen, young fruits eaten. [zzzju]

China, Northeast, Taihang Mountains. Decoction orally "for clearing heat and detoxicating, dispelling wind and analgesia effect, promoting stomach, detumescence, treating for retention of food, diarrhea due to damp-heat, verruca vulgaris". [rrrha] China, stem latex vs. child food and gan accumulation, stomach infection (and with oedema), duodenal ulcer, warts. [zzzau] China, all parts decoction vs. colds, chills. [zz141] Whole plant as wind-dispelling medicine. [zzzip]

Cynanchum clavidens ssp. *clavidens* see ***Cynanchum hastifolium***
Cynanchum clavidens ssp. *hastifolium* see ***Cynanchum hastifolium***

Cynanchum corymbosum **Wight**
China: 刺瓜 "ci gua" (= thorn melon). [zz141]
Thailand: "Chingcho-khon",
"Mara-phi-pluk",
"Mueai-nok-khao",
"Pha-lai-kwang". [zzzsm]

China, all parts to provoke milk and vs. kidney infection, neurasthenia, tuberculosis of the lungs. [zz141] Thailand, exactly the same uses given as the reference from China. [zzzsm] Whole plant vs. orchitis, hepatitis and urinary amenorrhoea. [zzzip]

Cynanchum defoliascens see ***Vincetoxicum arabicum***

Cynanchum edule see ***Cynanchum gerrardii***

Cynanchum ellipticum **(Harv.) R.A.Dyer**

Southern Africa, Nama, decoction drunk vs. boils. Disputed toxicity. [zz241]

Cynanchum ethiopicum **Liede & Khanum**
Reported as *Pentarrhinum abyssinicum*.

Swaziland: "umdzandzabuka". [zz144]

Swaziland, edible leaves and fruit. Widely eaten in S. Africa. [zz144]

Kenya, roots vs. stomach-ache. [zz204]

Cynanchum eurychitoides **(K.Schum.) K.Schum.**
Malagasy: "vahimbale" (= retaliation vine),
"vahimbale" (= fence vine). [zzzrd]
Sakalava: "hazomanga" (= holy tree). [zzzrd]

Madagascar, used for criminal poisoning. Madagascar, Sakalava, used in the circumcision ceremony. [zzzrd]

Cynanchum floribundum **R.Br.**
Also Vincetoxicum floribundum (R.Br.) Kuntze but not ***Vincetoxicum floribundum*** **(Miq.) Franch. & Sav.** Ignore *Tylophora floribunda* Benth./*Vincetoxicum polyanthum* Kuntze.

Queensland, Cloncurry: "Thooromia". [rrrgj]
South Australia, Northeast, Cordillo Downs: "Ngulta". [zzzim]
Fraser Range: "Kurdullu". [rrrgh]

Queensland, Cloncurry. In 1883, it was reported that: "... pods and leaves full of milk, eaten raw when young. It is said to fatten the natives." [rrrgj]

Despite being emetic, eaten raw by natives. [rrrgg] Northeast South Australia, Cordillo Downs, Brady's Water Hole. In 1919, a plant collector reported "Seeds are eaten". [zzzim]

Cynanchum foetidum see ***Cynanchum montevidense***

Cynanchum formosanum see ***Cynanchum ovalifolium***

Cynanchum forrestii see ***Vincetoxicum forrestii***

Cynanchum forskaolianum **(Schult.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Sarcostemma forskaolianum*.

Arabia, young shoots eaten. [zzzfd]

Cynanchum fruticulosum see ***Vincetoxicum arabicum***

Cynanchum gerrardi* (Harv.) Liede subsp. *gerrardi
Reported as *Cynanchum edule* and *Cynanchum sarcostemmatoides*.

Somalia: "Debina Dir".
Kitamba: "Kipagoro". [zzzdi]
South Africa: "Melktou" (= milk rope). [zzzdi]
East Africa, Swahili: "Utupa-wa-pani". [zzzkx]
Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "mizuwkan". Also used of ***Vincetoxicum linifolium.***
"gheqqihiyn",
"eqqihiyn", Plural: " 'aqahan".
(also used for *Cocculus pendulus* (Menispermaceae) and ***Secamone* spp.**).
"meyrih". Plural: " 'emrihor".
Also used of ***Cryptolepis socotrana***, ***Stephanotis arabica***, ***Vincetoxicum linifolium*** and several plants from other families: *Cocculus pendulus*, *Euphorbia obcordata* and *Euphorbia socotrana*. [rrrbd]

Madagascar. Fruit edible. In Latin as "Fructus edulis" (edible fruit) in the botanical description of *Cynanchum edule* in 1911. [rrrbg]

Zulu, young shoots eaten. Somalia. Eaten, much liked by pregnant women. [zzzdi]

Socotra. Latex vs. swellings, especially raised neck glands. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Herding staffs are made from thicker, straight branches. Slimmer branches in devices for weaning kids and lambs. Made into "bows" for beating wool to prepare it for spinning. Carved into spindles for spinning wool. Flexible branches used for the wooden rim of leather watering buckets. Suitable crooked pieces cut for fodder hooks, to get foliage within reach. Dead stems as firesticks. [rrrbd] East Africa, cuttings or young twigs bruised, in baskets or bundles, placed in creeks or pools as a fish poison. [zzzkx] East Africa, fish poison. [zzzdi]

Cynanchum glaucescens see ***Vincetoxicum glaucescens***

***Cynanchum gracillimum* Wall. ex Wight**
Reported as *Adelostemma gracillimum.*

China: 乳突果 "ru tu guo" (= sudden milk fruit). [zz141]

China, Yunnan, the region called either Gyalthang, Zhongdian or Shangri-La county (depending if you are Tibetan, Chinese or a travel agent, respectively). Nourishing tonic and vs. convulsions in children. [zzzfw]

Cynanchum grandidieri **Liede & Meve**
Reported as *Folotsia sarcostemmoides.*

Madagascar, South: "Falotsy". [zz237]
Malagasy, Bara and Betsileo: "fofitsa".
Mahafaly and Tandroy: "folotsy".
Mahafaly and Sakalava: "folotse".
(= confused tangle, the leafless stems growing into an interwoven snarl). [zzzrd]

S. Madagascar. Used to make glue for trapping birds. [zz237, zzzrd]

Cynanchum graphistemmatoides **Liede & Khanum**
Reported as *Graphistemma pictum.*

China: 天星藤 "tian xing teng" (= day star vine). [zz141]

China, decoction of all parts vs. traumatic injury and sore throat. [zz141]

Cynanchum hancockianum see ***Vincetoxicum mongolicum***

Cynanchum hastifolium **K.Schum.**
Reported as *Cynanchum clavidens* ssp. *clavidens* and *Cynanchum clavidens* ssp. *hastifolium.*

Somali: "Gesuriat".
Hobyo: "Shubkax". [zzzdi]
Northern Kenya, Pokot: "chepkitan".
Turkana: "lokorokori". [zzzwm]
Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo: "langarboi". [rrras]
Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District: "Halala". [zzzjb]

Fruit edible. [zzzdi] Northern Kenya, Turkana, food use. [zzzwm] Northern Kenya, Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo. Fruit edible. Not an important part of the diet. [rrras]

Northern Kenya, Pokot, medicinal use. [zzzwm] Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, fresh leaves applied(?) vs. tinea versicolor. [zzzjb]

Cynanchum hooperianum **(Blume) Liede & Khanum**
Some reports as *Raphistemma hooperianum.*

Thailand: "Khao-san-dok-lek",
"Mueai-san". [zzzsm]

Thailand, young branches, inflorescences and follicles as vegetables. Flowers fragrant, cultivated. [zzzsm] Cambodia, flowers eaten. [zzzcv]

Cynanchum ikema see ***Cynanchum maximoviczii***

Cynanchum inamoenum see ***Vincetoxicum inamoenum***

Cynanchum insipidum **(E.Mey.) Liede & Khanum**
Often reported as *Pentarrhinum insipidum*.

East Kenya, Samburu district: "Lkisuchie". [zz167]
Suiei Dorobo: "lngarboi". [zz7a]
Maa: "orkorirr",
Samburu: "lng'arboi",
"ng'arboi". [zz156]
Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo: "langarboi". [rrras]
Somali: "ayab". [zz156]
Ndebele: "aulana",
"furana",
"umulugwe". [zz211]
Sotho: "leswa". [zz211]
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "n!àùà" [zzzsq]
Qkhung San: "nqwashu",
"nqoshu". [zz91]
Namibia, Damara/Nama: "!guwib",
"!gubub",
!Kung: "n!auwa". [zzzsl]
German: "seidenwinde" (= silk bindweed). [zzzsl]
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "phulule". [zzzov]
S. Africa, Afrikaans: "donkieperske" (= donkey peach). [zz211, zzzov, zzzsl]
"hondepisbossie" (= dog urine bush),
"opklim" (= climb up),
"wildekomkommer" (= wild cucumber). [zz211]

Africa, "an important wild vegetable". [zz211] Kenya, Maasai, leaves are used as a vegetable and said to be tasty. The ripe fruits are edible and liked by children and women. [zz156] South Ethiopia, Hamar & Konso, leaf edible. [zzzqm]

Leaves fatal when fed to cattle. [zz31]

East Kenya: fruit eaten raw in rainy and early dry season. [zz7a] Northern Kenya, Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo. Fruit edible. Not an important part of the diet. [rrras] The reference [zz7a] has disappeared off the internet and I have no idea how reliable it was. Samburu County is in the north and slightly west of centre in Kenya. Matthews Range is in Samburu County. All the plants listed by [zz7a] are also listed by [rrras].

Namibia, ends of the long vines have a pleasant taste eaten raw. Leaves eaten raw or cooked like spinach. Fruit eaten fresh or boiled. [zzzsl] Tasteless cucumber-shaped young pod eaten by Khoi-khoi. Pedi, Northern Sotho, young tender leaf and tendril as a pot herb. Leaf edible. Fresh young leaf, 16.1 mg vitamin C in 100g. [zz241]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, leaves and fruit edible but most were not enthusiastic about the flavour. Only the outer layers of the fruit are eaten after roasting in hot ash, the inner pulp is scraped out and discarded. Leaves are more appreciated and eaten raw where found or taken home and pounded with the tubers of *Cucumis kalahariensis* (Cucurbitaceae), *Vigna vexillata* subsp. *lobatifolia* (Fabaceae) or corms of *Eulophia* (Orchidaceae). [zzzsq]

Leaves, stem and fruit widely eaten throughout Africa. Leaves sometimes pounded with leaves or tubers of other species and eaten as a salad. Harvested young fruit can last up to three weeks. Young fruit can be eaten as a vegetable or preserved like gherkins. Reported to have a crisp, nutty and slightly peppery taste. The vigorously-growing plant has potential as a crop and experiments are being conducted. Boiled leaves and young fruit have the same taste and texture as asparagus. [zz204, zz211]

Southern Africa, leaf and whole fruit edible. [zzznx] Southern Africa, stem, leaf and fruit as snack and vegetable. Leaf as flavourant. [zzznw] South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, leaf as vegetable. [zzzov]

Hot leaf decoction vs. anaplasmosis, an infection by bacteria related to *Rickettsia*. [zz167] Tanzania, used vs. boils. [zz204, zz211] Tanzania, Sukuma, leaves as poultice vs. boils, sores. Roots vs. sores. [zz189]

Namibia, Kalkfeld, Otjimbonde, Herero, root decoction for cleansing stomach and bowels vs. "nodules in the intestine". [zzzsl]

Cynanchum japonicum var. purpurascens see ***Vincetoxicum* x *purpurascens***

***Cynanchum junciforme* (Decne.) Liede**
Reported as *Pycnoneurum junciforme*.

Madagascar, Ambaniandro: "Kitsángana". [zzzlu]
Betsileo: "Fokotóhatsa",
"Kimaogagá". [zzzlu],
Betsileo: "Kidorika",
"Kifofo",
"Belahazotany" (= here from ancient times). [zzzrd]
Sakalava: "Fokotohatra". [zzzrd]

Madagascar, long roots eaten in times of want. [zz237] Edible tuber. [zzzlu] Edible tuber often eaten by cowherding children. Actively sought in the past but now only used in times of scarcity. [zzzrd]

Cynanchum komarovii see ***Vincetoxicum mongolicum***

Cynanchum lanceolatum Poir. see ***Leptadenia lanceolata***
but not *Cynanchum lanceolatum* Kunth which is *Orthosia bonplandiana*, not included here.

***Cynanchum ligulatum* (Benth.) Woodson**
Mexico, Aguascalientes: "talayote". [rrrdf]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Guerrero, Yoloxóchitl. (Fruit?) eaten roasted in ashes and embers. Shoots eaten as wild green vegetables, served with pipián, a spiced vegetable sauce made creamy with roasted pumpkin seeds or peanuts. Flower has the scent of jasmine. [rrrdq] Mexico, Aguascalientes. Immature fruits eaten raw. [rrrdf]

Cynanchum linifolium see ***Vincetoxicum linifolium***

***Cynanchum luteifluens* var. *longicoronae* Liede**
SW Madagascar, Mikoboka, Amboronabo, Mahaboboka: "Trivony". [rrrap]

SW Madagascar, Mikoboka, Amboronabo, Mahaboboka. Leaf decoction drunk vs. dizziness during pregnancy. Whole plant decoction drunk or as bath post partum. Root decoction drunk post partum. Leafy twig decoction drunk to heal uterus. Leaf decoction given to drink vs. epilepsy in children. [rrrap]

***Cynanchum maximoviczii* Pobedim.**
Reported as *Cynanchum caudatum* (Miq.) Maxim. but not to be confused with *Cynanchum caudatum* Vell. which is *Orthosia virgata.* Also called *Cynanchum ikema*.

Japan, Ainu: "Penup Kamuy" (= juicy/milky thing god/divinity/spirit], [fffap]
"ikema" (= big root),
"penup" (= milky root), [zzzjn]
イケマ "ikema", [fffap]
"Sirit". [fffap]
Nanbu dialect: "Kosanari",
“Kosa”. [fffap]

Japan, Ainu (native Japanese peoples). Worshipped as Penup Kamuy because of its strong spiritual powers. Monsters fear it and demons hate it. Used in magic to clear clouds and mist away. [fffap] Ainu, sometimes worshipped as a god (*kamuy*) because of its toxic activity. Root as charm against evil spirits. [zzzjn]

Ainu. Though the plant is known to be toxic, the root is boiled or roasted and eaten. There is a special rhyme for singing while getting a poisoned person to dance wildly to overcome the toxicity. [fffap]

Nanbu, cures poisoning from alcohol and fish. [fffap] Japan, Ainu, root as home remedy for all kinds of diseases. Diuretic. Very toxic. May cause serious poisoning with vomiting, diarrhoea, convulsions, paralysis, arrythmia, etc. [zz177] Mistakenly reported as good for horse ailments due to the resemblance of the word “ikema” to the word for horse. [fffap]

Ainu, crushed root mixed with the flesh of salmon and replaced in the skin of the salmon to look like an ordinary fish. This is used to poison Japanese ravens, carrion crows and eagles when hunting them. [fffap]

Cynanchum mongolicum see ***Vincetoxicum mongolicum***

Cynanchum monspeliacum see ***Cynanchum acutum***

***Cynanchum montevidense* Spreng.**
Argentina, Chorote,
iyojwá'ja: "joótinki-kás-i-'mpé", iyowújwa: "kátsitak-jlák". [zzzdf]
Yójwaha: "hootinkiká si′mpé", Yówujwa: "kátsitak lhák". [zzzrj]

South America, Gran Chaco. Fruit eaten by Chorote people. [fffaq]

Tender, unripe fruits eaten raw with salt as a vegetable. This paper reports the plant as *Telminostelma foetidum* (now *Cynanchum foetidum*) but that species only occurs in Mexico. [zzzrj]

Gustavo F Scarpa is the source for both *Telminostelma foetidum* and *Cynanchum montevidense* in the two papers [zzzrj] published in 2006 & [zzzdf] in 2007. Both papers were describing plant uses from the same collection area in Argentina by the borders with Paraguay and Bolivia. The local names given for the plants are very similar, see those names above. I can find no other *Cynanchum* or ex-*Telminostelma* collected by Scarpa in the specimens from the Herbarium of the Instituto Darwinion on GBIF, except *Cynanchum montevidense*. [rrrce]

Argentina, Chorote. Flowers, fruit and leaves as bait in fishing for particular species. [zzzdf]

Cynanchum mooreanum see ***Vincetoxicum chinense***

Cynanchum nipponicum var. *glabrum see* ***Vincetoxicum nipponicum***

***Cynanchum obtusifolium* L.f.**
Not to be confused with *Cynanchum obtusifolium* Rich., now called *Gonolobus obtusifolius* but not featured in this book.

Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, poisonous, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

Cynanchum odoratissimum see ***Telosma cordata***

***Cynanchum officinale* (Hemsl.) Tsiang & H.T.Zhang**
China: 朱砂藤 "zhu sha teng" (= cinnabar vine). [zz141]
Chinese: "Zhushateng". [fffaj]

China, roots vs. epilepsy, rabies and viper bites. [zz141] Roots as tonic, analgesic. [zzzip] South China, North Guangxi, Maonan people. Decoction of ground wild root orally as pain killer and vs. weakness. [fffaj]

Cynanchum orangeanum **(Schltr.) N.E.Br.**
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "ǂkáníbè". [zzzsq]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, plant vs. severe coughing with bloody spit and neck pain. Decoction of the bruised and cut roots is drunk (same illness?). Use not well known. [zzzsq] Namibia, Wilhemstal, Damara, roots chewed vs. sore throat and tonsillitis. [zzzsl]

Cynanchum orientale see ***Cynanchum acutum*** **subsp.** ***sibiricum***

Cynanchum otophyllum **C.K.Schneid.**
China: 青羊參 "qing yang shen". [zz141, zzzba]
Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains: “Tuoyaoyao”. [fffai]
Mile, Yi people: "Cinazai". [rrrfz]

China,Yunnan, Mile, Yi people. Fruit eaten fresh. [rrrfz] Root used as medicinal food, stewed with chicken and eaten vs. epilepsy and as a tranquilliser. [rrrfz]

China, Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains. Root, stem vs. lumbar muscle strain and as kidney tonic. [fffai] China, Yunnan, roots vs. epilepsy, rheumatic pain, kidney weakness and muscle injuries. [zzzfx] China, roots vs. epilepsy, chronic hepatitis. [zzzax] China, subterranean parts, decoction or cooked with meat vs. rheumatism and tonic for blood system. Alcohol extract vs. varicose veins. [zzzba] China, roots vs. rheumatism, epilepsy, rabies, viper bite. [zz141] Root vs. rheumatoid bone pain and rubella itching. [zzzip]

Cynanchum ovalifolium **Wight**
Sometimes reported as *Cynanchum formosanum.*

Ambon: "sayor susu laki laki" (= male milk vegetable). [zzzmt]
Maluku Islands (Moluccas): "Akar Bano". [zzzmp]

Maluku Islands, young leaves edible, used as a relish. [zzzmp] See “***Sussuela esculenta***”***.***

Taiwan. Diuretic and vs. fevers, swellings. [zz177]

Malaysia, Penang, in 1822 the plant collector Nathaniel Wallich noted on his herbarium sheet that "This produces an exc^{t} Cautchouc." [zzzmn][zzzcs][zzzdh]

Cynanchum paniculatum see ***Vincetoxicum bungei***

Cynanchum pedunculatum **R.Br.**
Not to be confused with *Cynanchum pedunculatum* Thunb., for which see ***Pergularia daemia*** **subsp.** ***daemia***.

Australia, Northern Territory, Ngankikurungkurr: "Midamurri". [zzziw]
Larrakia people: "Kä-kūmah". [rrrgg]

Australia, Northern Territory, young fruit eaten roasted on hot coals. [zzziw] Seeds eaten raw or cooked over fire. [rrrgg]

Cynanchum pulchellum **(Wall.) Liede & Khanum**
Reported as *Raphistemma pulchellum*.

Thailand: "Khao-san" [zzzsm]
"Khao-san-dok-yai",
"Ma-o-khruea". [zzzsm]

Thailand, young branches, inflorescences and follicles as vegetables. Flowers fragrant. [zzzsm] Thailand, peninsular, Phangnga, Ko Kho Khao, collector B Sangkhachand notes on the herbarium sheet of a plant collected in 1965:

> "Climber, common in mixed deciduous forest. Flowers white, scented, eatable. Fruits covered trees." [zzzsn]

Cynanchum radians **(Forssk.) Lam.**
Reported as *Steinheilia radians*.

Arabic: "Ether". [zzzly]

Arabia Felix (south Saudia Arabia) in 1844, half-ripe follicles reported as edible. In the original Latin: "Folliculi semimaturi edules." [zzzly]

Cynanchum registanense **Jayanthi**
Also reported as *Glossonema edule, Glossonema varians* and *Mastostigma varians*.

Arabic: "kurraysh". [zz243]
Yemen, central Abyan governate, Mukeiras district: "Kobishet-Imraii",
Lawdar district: "Qeshedtet",
Al-Wadhee district: "Kobash". [zzznu]
Southern Yemen: "Qumredh",
"Kobash". [zzzpv]
Qatar: "Garawah",
"Yarawah". [zz191, zz192]
Dhofar, Jibbali: plant - "ṯeḳelúm",
"ṯeḳelún",
"ṯeḳelób",
"feḳeláw". [rrrbi]
fruit - "xarźũt",
"xarźúm". [rrrbi]
Dhofar, Dhofari Arabic: plant "ġemraḍeh".
fruit "ḥeršāmeh". [rrrbi]
Saudi Arabia: "kurraysh". [zzzbg]
Bedouin: "kurrēsh",
"ʻitr",
"kubbēsh",
"kabūsh",
" ʻantēr". [zzzwh]
the fruit: "ʻitrī",
"kabash",
"jarū". [zzzwh]

Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, Brahui: "Khuromb",
"Gavaluk",
"Gavalok",
"Mashana Galau",
Balochi: "Kundu". [zzzcp]
Pakistan, Sindh Province, fruit: "moonga". [zz47]
Sindh/Balochistan, coastal areas: "Munga". [zzziv]
Sindh, hills: "Moonga". [zzzmc, zzzmd]
southern Balochistan: "shăgūshăk",
"khŭrūmb". [zzzcq]
India, Western Rajasthan, Thar Desert: tender fruits called "Khiroli". [rrrao]

Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, follicles cooked as a vegetable. [zzzcp] Iran, Hormozgan province, fresh fruit cooling and digestive. [zzzta] Pakistan, southern Balochistan, fruit eaten raw. [zzzcq] Pakistan, edible [zz128], fruit eaten raw. [zz14a] India, Western Rajasthan, Thar Desert. Tender unripe fruits eaten raw, used as a vegetable and are very delicious. Rarely sold in the local market. Tender leaves also as vegetable. [rrrao]

United Arab Emirates, young fruits edible and tasty. [zz243] Qatar. Edible fleshy follicles. [zz207] Unripe fruit edible. Almost every Qatari knows the plant and eats the unripe fruit. The seeds are also cooked. [zz191, zz192] Saudi Arabia, Bedouin, young fruits eaten, young leaves to a lesser extent. Only used raw. Abundant latex. Young fruits tasty and harmless, flavour like sweet cabbage. Older fruits inedible, tough texture and full of seed fluff. [zzzwh]

The plant is eaten throughout its range (from Arabia through Iran to India) as a salad, the fruit is also eaten. [zz47]

Pakistan, Sindh Hills, the plant collecter John Ellerton Stocks remarked on a herbarium sheet possibly collected in 1851 that:

> "Fruit called "Moonga" much eaten" [zzzmd]

Pakistan, Sindh/Balochistan, in 1852, Stocks published a description of this plant as *Mastostigma varians*, noting:

> "... Flowers sweet-smelling: the corolla and corona pure white or golden yellow. The plant is called *Moonga*, and its follicles are eaten raw by the hill-people. Its milk is abundant, and perfectly wholesome. ..." [zzzmc]

Dhofar, plants grow rapidly during rains. Fruit very delicious when young and tender with the taste of young peapods. Previously collected avidly as a delicacy. Also collected to give to others as a treat. [rrrbi] Oman, Khuriya Muriya islands, fruit collected by islanders from the freely-growing plants for sale to passing boats or taken to the mainland. [rrrbi] Southern Yemen, unripe fruit eaten fresh in rainy season, very sweet. [zzzpv]

Yemen, foot of the Dhofar Mountains, in 1895 the Yorkshire-born honorary citizen of San Marino, plant collector and archaeologist James Theodore Bent noted on the herbarium sheet for the type specimen of *Glossonema edule*:

> "Small green flower
> Eaten as Salad." [zzzmc]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, leaf paste applied vs. eczema. [zzznu]

Pakistan, Sindh/Balochistan, coastal areas, leaf infusion orally one glass daily for 10 days vs. painful urination. [zzziv] India, Western Rajasthan, Thar Desert. Fruit as tonic for body and to provide energy. Fruit juice vs. painful muscles, cough and sore throat. [rrrao]

Dhofar, considered filling fodder for livestock but not nutritious, does not promote lactation or development of the animals. [rrrbi]

I harvested the top of a 3 month old seedling grown under lights. Abundant flowers with a mild sweet fragrance. I only had one seedling and had no fruit. Tender tops of the many branches, flowers and leaves - totalled 77g. Boiled for ten minutes. Served with ¼g of salt and a dash of sesame oil. Nicely flavoured, easily chewed, no bitterness or particular sweetness. No particular dominant flavour, just wholesome tasty greens. [me, 2025]

Cynanchum revoilii **(Franch.) Khanum & Liede**
Reported as *Glossonema revoili*.

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "fiqali",
"fiqila". Plural: "fiqalihi".
"fallih".
fruit, "harshiym di fiqila". [rrrbd]
Kenya, Kimasai: "olkarere". [zz47]

Socotra. Fruit gathered from the wild, especially when other food is scarce. Taste of fresh peas, very sweet when young and tender but not eaten when mature. Not an important food but much-appreciated as a treat. [rrrbd]

Kenya, North Eastern Province, Wajir, edible fruits. Tanzania, young fruits eaten by herd boys. [zz47]

A similar plant is used for medicine by the Pokot in Northern Kenya under the name "chepkokon". [zzzwm]

Cynanchum rostellatum **(Turcz.) Liede & Khanum**
Usually reported as *Metaplexis japonica*. Also called *Metaplexis chinensis*, *Metaplexis stauntonii* and *Pergularia japonica*. See ***Fockea edulis*** for possible confusion.

China: 蘿蔓 "luo mo". [zz141][zzzat][rrrha]
Japan: ガガイモ [rrrie] "gagaimo", [zz158]
"Gaga-imo". [zzzra]
Korea: 박주가리 [rrrid] "bakjugari". [zz109]

China, leaves eaten raw or cooked. Cultivated or collected from wild. [zz218] Manchuria, unripe fruits eaten in late summer but rarely. [zzzlc]

Korea. Edible and medicinal. [rrrid]

Japan, Nagano prefecture, Ōshika. Eaten as a vegetable in this area but less often elsewhere. [rrrft] Japan, edible leaves, young fruit and tubers. [zz70]

Korea, used as a tonic and to stop bleeding. [zz109] Japan. Seeds and leaves as a tonic medicine called "rammashi". [zz158]

China, stems and roots vs. traumatic injury, snake bites, impotence and infantile malnutrition due to intestinal parasites. [zz141] Latex vs. snake and insect bites. [rrrft] China, herb or root vs. impotence, vaginal discharge, milk stoppage, cinnabar toxin, swelling sores and vacuity detriment taxation damage. Seed ("luo mo zi") vs. impotence, bleeding from cuts, vacuity taxation. [zzzat] China, Shaanxi, Mount Taibai. Used vs. cough, dizziness and urethra problems. [rrrfu] China. Used medicinally. [zz218]

China, Northeast, Taihang Mountains. Whole plant decoction orally for "tonifying Yang, promoting kidney, regulating the flow of vital energy, hemostasis, detumescence and detoxification, analgesia and anti-tumor effect, moistening the lung and relieving asthma, treating for bronchitis and pneumonia, lactagogue method, leucorrhea, spermatorrhea, cough and asthma, impotence". Pounded fresh whole plant applied for "pyogenic infections, bite, herpes zoster". [rrrha]

China/Japan unspecified, seed tonic, haemostatic, crushed seeds applied to wounds, ulcers and all insect bites. Considered too caustic for frequent use. Pounded leaves externally vs. swellings, abscesses. [zz177]

China, Yangtze River, whole plant boiled in water, cooled and diluted or solution mixed with small amounts of soap vs. aphids on soya beans. [zzzks]

The *Kojiki* or *Records of Ancient Matters* is regarded as the earliest surviving Japanese compilation of myth, claiming to be written in 712 CE. The tiny god Sukuna-Biko-Na-No-Kami (Little Prince the Renowned Deity) arrived to help create the land that became Japan, sailing in a tiny boat made from the pod of the *kagami* plant.

> "When OPO-KUNI-NUSI-NÖ-KAMÏ was at the Cape of MIPO in IDUMO, a deity came riding on the crest of the waves in a heavenly KAGAMI boat, wearing as clothing the skin of a wagtail which had been completely flayed." [rrrfq]

The *kagami* has been identified as several plants. In 1883, Basil Hall Chamberlain suggested in his annotated translation that it was *Ampelopsis serjaniifolia* (Vitaceae) but he must have got his vines tangled as that has a fruit like its cousin the grape, but only 1cm in diameter. Chamberlain describes the fruit as three to four inches long and shaped like a towel gourd. [rrrfr][rrrfs]

The author Donald L. Philippi suggested in his translation published in 1968 that the fruit of *Cynanchum rostellatum* is the most likely candidate. [rrrfq] Like most asclepiads, the seed pods ripen to a dry husk, split in half and the seeds fly away. The remaing husk would be an ideal toy boat for children.

My plant had one fruit after 18 months of growth. About 5 cm long and 4.5 g. I tasted a little raw and it was crisp and pleasant. As moist as a young carrot. No pronounced flavour though the immature seeds had a hint of peas about them. When boiled for three minutes, cut into five parts, the remainder was very pleasant with a soft texture rather like asparagus. No bitterness, no stringy or fibrous texture. The water it was boiled in had some mildly sweet flavour but no bitterness. The next year the plant produced many fruit, just as tasty. The purple flowers had a floral (lily, *Cestrum*?)/chocolate mousse aroma which gave them a very interesting flavour when eaten. [me, 2022]

Cynanchum sahyadricum **(Ansari & Hemadri) Liede & Khanum**
Previously *Seshagiria sahyadrica.*

India, Maharashtra: "Khobar-doda". [zzzpk]

Maharashtra, green, immature follicles relished by locals. [zzzpk]

Maharashtra, dried stem emetic. Root infusion vs. rabid dog bite. Stems and branches provide a strong fibre. [zzzpk]

Cynanchum sarcomedium **Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Sarcostemma intermedium*.

India,	Rajasthan:	"hamerbel". [zz113]
	Maharashtra:	"Soma". [zzzpk]
	Tamil Nadu:	"kodi kalli". [zz131]
	Andhra Pradesh:	"Kondapaala",
		"Pandirijamudu". [zz123]

Latex sucked vs. thirst and young succulent twigs as salad. [zzzfd]

India, Maharashtra, roots vs. snakebite. Plant bitter, cooling, alterative and used vs. tridosha, biliousness, thirst. [zzzpk] India, Rajasthan, root paste as antidote. Poultice of whole plant for bone fractures. [zz113]

India, Tamil Nadu, 5-6 drops of latex applied to insect stings. [zz131] India, Andhra Pradesh, stem ground with latex, applied vs. snake bite. [zz123]

India, Bombay area. Bundle of twigs placed in irrigation reservoirs with bag of salt to rid sugar-cane fields of white ants (termites) without affecting the crop. See also ***Cynanchum viminale*** **ssp.** ***viminale*** as *Sarcostemma acidum*. [zzzcr]

Cynanchum sarcostemmatoides see ***Cynanchum gerrardii***

Cynanchum sessiliflorum **(Decne.) Liede**
Reported as *Pycnoneurum sessiliflorum*.

Madagascar, used as ***Cynanchum junciforme***. [zz237]

Cynanchum sibiricum (L.) R.Br. see ***Cynanchum thesioides***
Cynanchum sibiricum Willd. see ***Cynanchum acutum*** **subsp.** ***sibiricum***

Cynanchum socotranum **(Lavranos) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Sarcostemma socotranum*.

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "minduwrib",
"minduwraz".
"di halbeb".
"bilbil" (= pearl oyster).
" 'alihat".
(also used for *Cissus paniculata*, Vitaceae).
"riyebih". (= "prostrate with exhaustion",
also used for ***Ceropegia affinis***). [rrrbd]

Socotra. Stems chewed vs. thirst and for pleasant, astringent flavour. Flowers and fruit eaten. Root system peeled and eaten. [rrrbd]

Cynanchum somaliense **(N.E.Br.) N.E.Br.**
Sometimes reported as *Pentarrhinum somaliense.*

Ethiopia, Boran: "Goriss".
Somali region: "gasur riyoli".
Uganda: "yapo". [zzzdi]

Ethiopia, fruits eaten by all age groups. [zz204]

Uganda. For women in childbirth and vs. abdominal pains. [zzzdi] Ethiopia. Extract to ease childbirth and vs. abdominal pains. [zz204]

Cynanchum stauntonii see ***Vincetoxicum stauntonii***

Cynanchum taiwanianum see ***Cynanchum boudieri***

Cynanchum tenellum Blanco see ***Vincetoxicum flexuosum*** **var.** ***perrottetianum***
Cynanchum tenellum L.f. do not see *Scyphostelma tenellum*
Cynanchum tenellum Riedel ex E.Fourn. do not see *Ditassa burchellii*

Cynanchum tetrapterum see ***Cynanchum viminale subsp. suberosum***

Cynanchum thesioides **(Freyn) K.Schum.**
Sometimes *Cynanchum sibiricum* (L.) R. Br., *Vincetoxicum sibiricum* and *Vincetoxicum thesioides*. Not *Cynanchum sibiricum* Willd., see ***Cynanchum acutum*** **subsp.** ***sibiricum***.

Inner Mongolia, Arhorchin Mongol Herdsmen: "temegen huhu". [zzzju]
Mongolia: "teinegeni xűx". [rrrdx]
China: 地梢瓜 "di shao gua" (ground shoot melon). [zzz141]
English: "Bastardtoadflaxlike Swallowwort". [zzzat]
I have not included many other English names. This name tickled me.

In 1884, it was reported that the Chinese eat the large milky capsule when it is young. In the original French:

"Fleurs petites, d'un blanc jaunâtre, à odeur très suave; les Chinois en mangent la grosse capsule laiteuse lorsqu'elle est jeune." [rrrhl]

Inner Mongolia, Arhorchin Mongol Herdsmen, fruit eaten as fruit or vegetable. Use and name the same for *Cynanchum thesioides* var. *australe*. [zzzju] Mongolia. Young fruit used to make pickles. Inner Mongolia, Daqinggou. Mongolians ate young fruits. Alashan Left Banner of Alashan League, young fruits edible. Xilingol League and Mongolians in the Ordos plateau, as wild vegetable. [rrrdx]

Herb and fruit vs. vacuity and depletion of qi-blood, brain neurosism and sore throat. [zzzat] Used as antidote. [zz177] Korea. Medicinal. [rrrid]

***Cynanchum thruppii* (Oliv.) Khanum & Liede**
Reported as *Glossonema thruppii.*

Somaliland, Somali: "askar",
"khuruchi",
"subkab". [zz47]

Sweet young fruit, to 3 x 6.5cm, much relished by Somalis. [zz47]

***Cynanchum tunicatum* (Retz.) Alston**
Reported as *Cynanchum pauciflorum*.

Sri Lanka, Sinhala: "Kankumbala". [zzzds]

Sri Lanka, used in medicine. [zzzds]

***Cynanchum unifarium* (Scheele) Woods**
Mexico, Guanajuato & Nueva León: "talayote". [rrrep]
Veracruz: "chivita". [rrrep]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Nueva León. Fruit eaten roasted or boiled. [rrrep]

***Cynanchum vanlessenii* (Lavranos) Goyder**
Also *Sarcostemma vanlessenii.*

Yemen Southern: "Qalab". [zzzpv]
central Abyan governate, Mukeiras district: "Qalab". [zzznu]

Southern Yemen, flowers eaten fresh in rainy season, mild and sweet.[zzzpv]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, stem latex applied vs. boils, skin infection. [zzznu]

Many tiny (7mm across) flowers on my houseplant. No distinctive taste or bitterness, some sweetness. Nibbled the flowers many times since with no problem. Some *Cynanchum* species that were *Sarcostemma* are said to be caustic but this seemed fine. [me, 2022]

Cynanchum versicolor see ***Vincetoxicum versicolor***

***Cynanchum viminale* (L.) L.**
Sometimes as *Sarcostemma viminale* and see also ***Cynanchum viminale* ssp. *viminale*.**

Namibia, Kwanyama, Ovamboland: "omushikahupa".
Herero: "eninga".
Damara/Nama: "/guutama//ob".
!Kung: "g!ubug!ubu". [zzzsl]
Swaziland: "emaphoti",
"ingotjwa",
"liphoti",
"makhombo makhulu",
"umphangalehaya". [zz144]
Mozambique, Canhane village: "neta",
"netha". [zzzfn]
Réunion: “Calé”. [fffao]
South Africa, Zulu: "Mabelebele" [zz76]
Tsonga: "Neta",
Venda: "Mutungu". [zz147]
Afrikaans: "katstert" (= cat's tail). [zzzsl]
Madagascar, Mahafaly: "rangakibo" (kibo = stomach).
Tanosy: "Bemavo".
Mahafaly and Sakalava: "Trihe".
Sakalava: "tsimandravina" (= leafless).
Bara and Betsileo: "voalelolahy" (= male glue-latex). [zzzrd]
Hova: "Tsimandravina",
Vakin Ankaratra & Hova: "Vahinkary" [fffao]
Burkina Faso, Baskoure: "wobg-gnaodo". [zz165]
Tanzania, Ngorongoro District, Batemi: "mbebe". [zzzjo]
Kenya, Maasai Mara, Sekeneni Valley, Maasai: "Ololei". [zzzoj]
Masai: "Ol Dewo". [zz32]
Chamus: "l-oilei"
Maa: "ol'loilei",
"endepeu".
Samburu: "loiyei".
Kipsigis: "ngolinyit",
"ngololiet".
Luo: "ohao".
Pokot: "cheporewo",
"mosolion".
Turkana: "eligoi",
"egis". [zz156]
"eligoi". [zzzwm]

Kenya, Pokot: "cheporewo",
"cherkoinyon",
"asupka",
"mosolion". [zzzwm]
Ethiopia, Whorrey (Wari?) river valley: "Halenke Hewey" (= monkey whip). [zzznv]
Dhofar, Jibbali: “bīdōr”.
Jibbali & Dhofari Arabic: “bīdól”. [rrrbi]
Yemen, central Abyan governate, Lawdar & Modyah districts: "Arnaq". [zzznu]
Southern: edible varieties are "arnaq".
toxic varieties are "alab".
"Khal",
"Radhaa",
"Bidar". [zzzpv]
Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: الريدا "Al Rida" [fffat]
Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore district, Karamadai range, Pillur Beat: "Kodikalli". [zzzun]
Maharashtra: "Somvel",
"Soma",
"Ransher". [zzzpk]
NW Ahmednagar: "Sabar". [rrrat]

Southern Yemen, young stems eaten fresh in rainy season, mildly sour. [zzzpv] Dhofar. Important food source previously, still foraged and enjoyed. Edible fresh new growth after rains - can be easily separated from the hard core of the stalks by twisting - “refreshingly lemony and tart”. Flowers and young fruit edible. Can be mistaken by the ignorant for some Euphorbia species, leading to tragedy. [rrrbi] Arabia, sour peeled stem eaten to cleanse stomach. General tonic. [zz79] Not yet determined if found on Socotra, if so, the names and uses will be as for ***Cynanchum socotranum***. [rrrbd]

Kenya, Masai. Roots boiled and eaten. [rrreb] Kenya, Maasai Mara, Sekeneni Valley, Maasai, roots in soup for elders. [zzzoj] Kenya, Chamus, root and stem boiled as a general tonic. Warriors and elders take it in soup, children in milk. [zz96] Masai use the stem for thirst relief. [zz32] Turkana, Pokot, Maasai, Luo, Samburu, Somali, Boran, the young soft stems are chewed and may be swallowed. In older stems, only the juicy extract is swallowed. Stems have an acid taste. [zz156] Tanzania, Ngorongoro District, Batemi, chewed to quench thirst. Condiment in soup or milk. [zzzkd] Tanzania, Ngorongoro District, Batemi, stems added to soup as a tonic. [zzzjo]

Zulus eat raw stem and small amounts cooked with food as a relish. Fruit said to be edible. In some places it is eaten by stock, in others it is untouched, toxicity to livestock varies according to the location. Abundant latex as a fish poison. [zz127, zz144, zz241] Zululand (Ubombo district): stems and fruit eaten. Natal: unspecified portion of plant reported commonly eaten by women and children. [zz76] Southern Africa, whole plant, fruit and stem as snack and vegetable. Stem for moisture. [zzznw]

Mozambique, Canhane village. Fruit eaten. [zzzfn]

Northern Kenya, Pokot, medicinal and food use. Northern Kenya, Turkana, medicinal use. [zzzwm] Kenya, Maasai, roots are used for the treatment of gonorrhoea. [zz156] Kenya, Maasai Mara, Sekeneni Valley, Maasai. Poisonous, latex in eye causes blindness. Latex vs. eye disease. [zzzoj] Ethiopia (as Abyssinia), Whorrey (Wari?) river valley, milky juice applied vs. licheniform ulcers on the hands. In the original Latin: "succus lacteus adhibetur contra manus ulcera licheniformia". [zzznv]

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, medicinal "Gynaecological". "Newly-born infants". "Gastrointestinal - includes use as emetic". "Eyes, ears and nose". No details. [zzziz]

Namibia, Ovambo, entire plant water extract drunk or as enema to increase milk production. Namibia, Khoisan, stem tea to increase milk production and stems tied around the mother's chest or her breasts lightly hit with small branches. Namibia, Herero, latex vs. warts. Latex toxic and causes vomiting if ingested. Namibia, Kakaoland, Himba, expressed plant sap rubbed into skin vs. itching. [zzzsl]

Mozambique, Canhane village. Root decoction orally vs. stomachache. Latex applied vs. eye problems. [zzzfn] Mozambique, used vs. infertility. [zzznb]

Africa, many medicinal uses including increasing the production of milk in women and cows. [zz59]

Burkina Faso, branch decoction vs. vertigo, hernia, skin diseases and as a vermifuge. [zz165] Swaziland, stem vs.heartburn, ulcers, septic sores, venereal disease. Stems and pods stimulate milk in nursing mothers. [zz144] South Africa, aerial part used vs. wounds, crushed and applied directly. Very effective vs. maggots. [zz147]

Madagascar, decoction vs. stomach ache. [zzzrd] Madagascar. Used as emetic and expectorant. Mauritius. Used vs. excessive bleeding in menstruation. Réunion. Used successfully vs. chronic dysentery. [fffao]

Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: fresh "epidermal layer" minced, mixed with margarine and applied vs. wounds. [fffat]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, fresh young pieces of stem eaten vs. loss of memory, low immunity, impotence, stomach ache and digestion disorders, [zzznu] Dhofar. Restorative, tonic, blood purifier and digestive cleanse. [rrrbi]

India, Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore district, Karamadai range, Pillur Beat, decoction of aerial parts as purgative and emetic. [zzzun]

India, Maharashtra, Roots vs. snakebite. Plant bitter, cooling, alterative, used vs. tridosha, biliousness, thirst. [zzzpk] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Latex applied for wound healing. [rrrat]

***Cynanchum viminale* subsp. *australe* (R.Br.) Meve & Liede**
Previously reported as *Sarcostemma viminale* ssp. *australe* and *Sarcostemma australe.*

Australia, Kimberley Region, Kija people: "kanyjewuny",
"karnjiwuny".
Jaru people: "ngabulungabulu",
"ngabuluyaru".
Northern Territory, Pitjantjatjara: "Ipi ipi" (= breast milk, it has milky latex). [zzziw]
"Caustic Vine".[zzzbv]

Western Australia, Kimberley Region, Kija people. White latex dabbed on vs. ringworm, sores. Jaru people, latex vs. sores and considered powerful vs. any skin disorder including cancers. [zzzbv] Australia, latex vs. cancer. [zzzas] North Australia, native use vs. smallpox. [zzzew] Australia, Northern Territory, handful of stems soaked in hot water and water used as a wash vs. itchy skin, rashes and scabies. [zzziw]

New Caledonia, Loyalty & Grand Terre Islands, used vs. wounds (latex vs. burns?). [zzzew]

Western Australia, Kimberley Region, Kija people, smashed stems as fish poison in waterholes. [zzzbv]

***Cynanchum viminale* subsp. *brunonianum* (Wight & Arn.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Sarcostemma viminale* ssp. *brunonianum* or *Sarcostemma brunonianum*.

Sri Lanka, Sinhala: "muwakiriya". [zzzds]

India, plant sometimes eaten as a salad. [xxxld]

Sri Lanka, used vs. fractures, anorexia, dropsy, diarrhoea, haemorrhoids. Used to promote production of urine, bile and milk. [zz109]

***Cynanchum viminale* subsp. *stipitaceum* (Forssk.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Sarcostemma stipitaceum, Sarcostemma viminale* ssp. *stipitaceum* and *Asclepias stipitacea.*

Yemen: "Rideh". [zz74]
central Abyan governate, Lawdar & Modyah districts: "Alab",
Al-Wadhee district: "Leb". [zzznu]
Southern: "Radhaa",
"Milab". [zzzpv]

Yemen, in woods? Published in 1775, though after Peter Forsskål died in 1763. Shepherds and young boys ate the raw stem tops like a green vegetable. Forsskål suggested that other commenters were wrong in thinking the stems are a stimulant (provoking bodily secretions, not in the modern sense of stimulating the brain). In the original Latin:

> "Summitates caulium crudas
> edunt pastores puerique instar oleraceæ: adeoque verosimile non
> est, stipites esse stimulantes; quod retulit quidam." [zz74]

Arabia, young shoots eaten. In 1919, maybe a repeat of Forsskål, 156 years earlier. [zzzfd]
Southern Yemen. In 2021, young stems eaten fresh in rainy season, sour. [zzzpv]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, stem latex applied vs. chronic wounds and boils. [zzznu]

***Cynanchum viminale* subsp. *suberosum* (Meve & Liede) Goyder**
Reported as *Sarcostemma viminale* ssp. *suberosum* and *Cynanchum tetrapterum*.

Southern Yemen: "Zab-Imbaeer". [zzzpv]
Dhofar, Jibbali: “halbelíb”,
“halbelób” (as *Cynanchum tetrapterum*). [rrrbi]
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "mutshiso".
"gona".
"muṭungu". [zzzov]

Southern Yemen, young stems eaten fresh, sour. Seldom found. Also used in Oman. [zzzpv]

Reported as *Cynanchum tetrapterum.* Kenya, Masai. The fresh green shoots are eaten by children. Plant as flavouring in goat stew. [rrreb]

Dhofar. The whole plant edible – flower, fruit, stems, roots and shoots. Stem bitter near the root, otherwise juicy, delicious sour flavour and very popular. [rrrbi]

The authors state that everyone in Dhofar knows this rhyme, which seems a little risqué:

> “I ate *Cynanchum tetrapterum*
> and spent the evening in tears.
> My wife has run out on me
> and (she too) spent the evening wailing. [rrrbi]

South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, root and bark as medicine. [zzzov]

Kenya. Twigs (and leaves?) used as fish poison, reported as both *Sarcostemma viminale* and *Cynanchum tetrapterum*. Mentioned among 14 species used in the same country as fish poison - from a diverse range of plant families. [rrrfj]

***Cynanchum viminale* subsp. *viminale* (L.) L.**
Reported as *Sarcostemma acidum* and *Sarcostemma brevistigma.* Other names include *Sarcostemma aphylla*, *Sarcostemma madagascariense* and *Decanemopsis aphylla*.
See also ***Cynanchum viminale***.

India, Vedic ritual & Ayurveda: "Soma". [rrrfv]
Rajasthan: "Somalatha", [zz236]
Tamil: "sommam". [zz162]
Tamil Nadu: Dindigul district, Thoppampatti: "Somam". [zzzse]
Malayalam: "somam". [zz162]
Telugu: "tiga tshomoodoo". [zz66]
"kondapala". [zz162]
Bengali: "bramee",
"shomluta". [zz66]
Hindi & Bengali: "somalata",
Sanskrit & Marathi: "Soma". [zz162]
Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Kodikalli". [zzztf]
Western Ghats, Palliyars: "Thannikkodi". [zzzqr]
Karamadai Range, Irulas tribes: "Kondapala". [zzzul]
Andhra Pradesh: "Atukudu tiga". [zz187]
Andhra Pradesh: "Gundupaala Tiga". [zzzsg]
China: 肉珊瑚 "rou shan hu" (= "flesh coral"). [zz141]

India in 1832, William Roxburgh reported from his own experience (in a posthumous publication, he died in 1815) that:

> "This plant yields a larger portion of very pure milky juice than any other I know; and what is rare, it is of a mild nature, and acid taste. The native travellers often suck the tender shoots to all[a]y their thirst." [zzzcc]

India, Tamil Nadu, Palliyars, stem eaten. [zzzqr]

Reported to be used in 1874 in modern Vedic rituals on the Coromandel coast as a substitute for the ancient "Soma". [zz172] "Some species" of *Sarcostemma* are now the most commonly used in Soma sacrifice rituals. [zz126, zz214] Reported to be one source of "Soma",* a modern Ayurvedic medicine with a wide range of uses but also a divine medicinal plant mentioned in ancient Vedic scripture. Several plants are used under that name in modern India as a medicine or ritual sacrament, including *Ruta graveolens* and *Ephedra* species. [rrrfv] The original identity of Soma is disputed but the best argument is for *Ephedra*, whose twiggy branches have some resemblance to *Sarcostemma*, and was argued by Falk. [zz69] * See also ***Ceropegia juncea***.

India, Tamil Nadu, Karamadai Range of Western Ghats, Nellithurai Beat, Irulas tribes, aerial parts vs, asthma. Reported as *Sarcostemma brevistigma.* [zzzul] India, Tamil Nadu, Dindigul district, Thoppampatti, raw whole plant orally vs. viral infection, hydrophobia and psychopathy, also as emetic, and insecticidal. [zzzse]

Stem bark to increase milk in cattle. [zz236] China, all parts used to help milk production. [zz141]

Used medicinally in India vs. rabies, snakebite and other ailments. [zz109] Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills, latex applied vs. snake bites. [zzzuo] Andhra Pradesh, 20-25 leaves chewed with 3-4 pieces rock salt, daily for 5 days vs. coughs. [zz187] India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, three drops of latex with honey three times daily vs. chronic ulcer. [zzztf]

Stem juice mixed with water vs. rheumatism, arthritis and joint pain. Dry powder decoction vs. earache in babies. West Bengal, Purulia district, milky latex for lactating mothers. Karnataka, Bidhar district, latex applied vs. wounds and cuts. Madhya Pradesh, stem vs. bone fracture. Andra Pradesh, Cuddapah district, Yanadis community, water solution of pulpy mesocarp as nasal drops (external remedy) in epilepsy. [zzzum] India, Andhra Pradesh, leaf juice as ear drops vs. earache. Extract of stem and *Cynodon dactylon* grass with turmeric applied and tied with bandage vs. mad dog bite, twice a week for two weeks. Milky latex as lotion. [zzzsg]

Sap, insecticide. [zz177] India, Bombay area, bundle of twigs placed in irrigation reservoirs with a bag of salt to rid sugar-cane fields of white ants (termites) without affecting the crop. see also ***Cynanchum sarcomedium***. [zzzcr]

3.6% hydrocarbon/rubber. [zzzaq]

Cynanchum vincetoxicum see ***Vincetoxicum hirundinaria***

Cynanchum virens **(E. Mey.) D. Dietr.**
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Molōlō". [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, roots cooked and eated as famine food. [zzznz] Southern Sotho, used as spinach. Root eaten during famine. [zz241] Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw]

Cynanchum wilfordii **(Maxim.) Hemsl.**
Korea: "Keun-jo-rong". [zzzcz]
China: 隔山消 "ge shan xiao", [zz141]
Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains: “Geshanxiao”. [fffai]
Japan: "Ko-ikema".[zzzra] See also "Ikema" - ***Cynanchum maximoviczii***.

Korea, root tonic and used vs. scrofula and cold knee. [zzzcz] Korea, tuberous roots as tonic and kidney function promoter. [zz177] Korea. Medicinal. [rrrid]

China, root used vs. impotence, neurasthenia and lumbago. [zz141] Roots used vs. injury, dysentery, infantile malnutrition, stomach pain, leucorrhoea and sore ringworm. [zzzip] China, Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains - Root as digestive. [fffai] China, Shaanxi, Mount Taibai. Roots vs. weakness and kidney problems. [rrrfu]

Cynanchum zeyheri **Schltr.**

Southern Africa, fruit pods edible. [zzznx]

Cyprinia gracilis see ***Periploca gracilis***

D

Dæmia angolensis see ***Pergularia daemia***

Daemia cordata see ***Pergularia tomentosa***

Dæmia extensa see ***Pergularia daemia***

Daemia tomentosa see ***Pergularia tomentosa***

Decalepis arayalpathra **(J. Joseph & V. Chandras.) Venter {Periplocoideae}**
Previously called *Janakia arayalpathra.*

India, Kerala, Kani tribe: "amrithapala" (= immortality-elixir milk). [rrraf]

India, southern forests of the western Ghats. Highly aromatic moniliform tuberous roots. Kani tribes consider it a very important drug with wonderful curative properties and use the root vs. peptic ulcer, cancer-like afflictions and as a rejuvenating tonic to restore lost stength and stamina. [rrraf]

A single plant can yield up to 5kg of roots. Expressed juice from the root or the pounded fresh tuber are mixed with an equal quantity of expressed coconut juice. This is boiled until it is semisolid and then cooled. 10-15ml is taken twice daily for 15 to 30 days vs. peptic ulcers and related afflictions. [rrraf]

Said to be one of the medicines taken from the Himalaya to Lanka by Hanuman to cure Lakshmana of poisoning in the war against the Rakshashas. Hanuman then drank the milky juice to cure the fatigue of the miraculous journey carrying the herbs and the mountain where they grew. [rrraf]

India. Reported as *Janakia arayalpathra*, root vs. tumours. [zzzas]

A minor part of the international illegal trade in *Decalepis hamiltonii* root will be this species and *Decalepis salicifolia* but they are difficult to distinguish from each other. [rrrag]

Decalepis hamiltonii **Wight & Arn**
India, Western Ghats: "makali beru",
"mahali kizhangu",
"maredu gaddalu". [zz166]
Andhra Pradesh, Telugu: "maredugaddalu",
"maredu kommelu",
"barre sugnadhi". [rrrah]
Karnataka/Tamil Nadu/Kerala: "Sariva Bheda"
(Sariva = ***Hemidesmus indicus***, Bheda = different) [rrrai]

India, the cooling, refreshing drink prepared from the root is called "nannari" [zz166, rrrah], "sughandapala" or "sarasaparilla". [rrrah] India, Andhra Pradesh. Yanadi tribe prepare a herbal health drink from the root. A 2-3 year old plant can produce 15-20kg of roots. Harvested during summer. Root sold cheaply at pilgrimage centres, shanties, etc. Can be mixed with *Hemidesmus indicus* to make *nannari*. Nannari, medicinal drink cools the system, improves appetite and purifies the blood. Nannari is the poor man's drink in Andra Pradesh. Nannari served especially on special occasions. Cultivation instructions given. Can produce 7.5 to 15 tonnes of dry roots per hectare. [rrrah] India. Root extract is taken orally to rejuvenate the body and it is a popular health tonic for rural people. [zz186]

India, Tamil Nadu, Western Ghats, Madurai, Valaiyan tribe, tuber edible. [zzzts] Chutney and pickle made with lemon juice and roots. Tastes like ginger pickle, to accompany food vs. indigestion, constipation and gas troubles. [rrrah] Fresh, sliced root pickled with lime or used as it is. Appetiser, blood purifier. Strong aromatic odour, sweet taste and gives a tingling sensation on the tongue. [zz166] Root included in pickles. [zz169]

Southern India. Used as a substitute for *Hemidesmus indicus*, including in many Ayurvedic multi-herb formulations. Difficult to distinguish as they are very similar. Popular in pickles. [rrrai] India. Roots vs. dysentery, cough, bronchitis, leucorrhoea, uterine haemorrhage, skin disease, fever, indigestion, vomiting, chronic rheumatism, anemia and blood diseases. [rrrae] India, Andhra Pradesh, Eastern Ghats. Roots habitually carried and chewed for the digestion. Roots as general tonic, appetite stimulant and vs. flatulence. [rrrah] India, root an ingredient of many Ayurvedic medicinal preparations. [zz169] The root is illegally smuggled internationally due to demand for the extract. [rrrag]

Root contains 0.33% of an essential oil produced by hydrodistillation with the major component 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (para-methoxysalicylaldehyde) at 37.45% among other aldehydes including salicylaldehyde at 31.01%. [zz226] I have just coined the name mondillin to make my life easier, as it is a positional isomer of vanillin. Another report states that steam distillation gave a volatile oil at 0.68% of the fresh, fleshy roots composed of 96% mondillin, the next most abundant compound being vanillin at 0.45%. [zz166] See ***Mondia whitei*** for more on mondillin.

149.5g of fresh root harvested 12/2/23 from a plant grown in a light cabinet in Manchester. 2.8g eaten. Nice texture like a crisp young turnip but no strong taste, good flavour a mild bitterness but the characteristic mondillin was just a mild aftertaste. The slowly-dried roots seemed more fragrant. After a year in storage in a metal box, the roots seemed to have become much more fragrant. These were just the roots from an 8 month old plant, so not representative of a mature root. Unfortunately, I did not have space to grow it to full-size in my small bedroom. [me, 2023]

***Decalepis khasiana* (Kurz) Ionta ex Kambale**
Previously *Pentanura khasiana, Periploca khasiana* and *Stelmocrypton khasianum.*

China: 須藥藤 "xu yao teng" (= required medicine vine) [zz141],
"sheng teng". [zzzat]

China, all parts are used medicinally for bronchitis, cough, and epidemic influenza. The roots yield an aromatic oil. [zz141] Lianoid stem or herb vs. common cold, pain from joints, stomachache and tracheitis. [zzzat]

Decalepis salicifolia **(Bedd. ex Hook.f.) Bruyns**
Previously called *Utleria salicifolia*.

India, Tamil Nadu, Anamalai, Kadar tribe: "Utleer",
Tamil: "Shedi Mahali" (= shrub Mahali),
"Para Mahali" (= rock Mahali),
Kerala: "Marappala",
Kerala, Malasar, Kadar, and Muthuvan tribes: "Mahali kizhangu". [rrrag]
"Mahali" is "Mahalakshmi", Hindu Goddess of wealth, "kizhangu" are root tubers.

India, Kerala, Nelliampathy forests, Malasar and Kadar tribes & Parambikulam forests, Muthuvan tribes. Plant considered divine by these tribes as it only grows in inaccessible rocky crevices of mountains. Rhizome usually tied on their huts with the belief that it will invite good fortune. Crushed fresh tubers boiled with tea powder (*Camellia sinensis*) as a refreshing drink. [rrrag]

Powdered dried tuber in hot water orally, twice a day for fifteen days vs. asthma. Malasar tribal community, rhizome decoction four times a day continuously for 40 days vs. debility from tuberculosis. Rhizomes chopped and boiled in water for making pickles, beneficial vs. intestinal ailments and bleeding due to ulcers. [rrrag]

Muthuvan tribe, crushed rhizomes orally vs. skin diseases. The plant vs. intestinal discomforts and to promote milk production with *Asparagus racemosus* Willd. (shatvari, Asparagaceae), *Foeniculum vulgare* Mill. (common fennel, Apiaceae) and *Ficus glomerata* Roxb. (cluster fig, Moraceae). [rrrag]

A minor part of the international illegal trade in *Decalepis hamiltonii* root will be this species and *Decalepis arayalpathra* but they are difficult to distinguish from each other. [rrrag]

As with *Decalepis hamiltonii* and several other genera of Periplocoideae, the roots were shown to contain the delightfully fragrant 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (which I am now calling mondillin, as that is easier to type). [rrrag] For more plants with mondillin, see ***Mondia whitei***.

Decanemopsis aphylla see ***Cynanchum viminale*** **subsp.** ***viminale***

Desmidorchis arabica **(N.E.Br.) Meve & Liede {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**
Reported as *Caralluma arabica*.

Oman, Arabic: "dij". [rrrcv]

Oman. Fresh stems edible, bitter towards the base. [rrrcv]

Highly valued vs. diabetes, liver ailments, painful and inflammatory conditions [zzztq] Used as a coolant vs. itchy skin and burns. [rrrcv] United Arab Emirates, commonly used as a medicinal plant. [zzztp]

***Desmidorchis aucheriana* (Decne.) Kuntze**
Reported as *Caralluma aucheriana*. This species is only found in Oman and Yemen - for the Iran and Pakistan reports see the possibly correct identity ***Apteranthes tuberculata***. See also ***Stapelia reflexa*** for another odd reference to *Boucerosia aucheriana*.

Oman: "dij". [zz79]

Oman. Fresh stems are edible and are often eaten as a tonic and for giving vitality. Commonly sold in markets in Muscat and the United Arab Emirates. [zz79]

Oman. As emollient and tea from stems vs. liver problems. Milk curdled with juice from the stem given to speed convalescence. Juice from stems aplied to soothe burns and for sunburn and itchy skin. [zz79]

***Desmidorchis awdeliana* (Deflers) Meve & Liede**
Sometimes reported as *Caralluma awdeliana*.

Yemen, central Abyan governate, Lawdar & Modyah districts: "Uruz". [zzznu]
Lawdar, Modyah & Al-Wadhee districts: "Kuaaur". [zzznu]
Southern: "Uruz",
"Kuaaur",
"Muqrer",
"Kuaath". [zzzpv]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter. Sold in local markets. Reported by all 250 informants. [zzzpv] Yemen, central Abyan governate. Plant edible. [zzznu]

Yemen, central Abyan governate. Raw, fresh, young pieces of stem eaten vs. diabetes. [zzznu]

***Desmidorchis flava* N.E. Br.**
Often reported as *Caralluma flava*.

Dhofar, Jibbali: "źója' ĩźdót",
Dhofari Arabic: "ḏurū' el-kēbeh" (= bitch boobs). [rrrbi]
Jibbali Arabic: "Zoja",
Dhofari Arabic: "Duru-el-kebeh". [zzzuf]
Jibbali: flowers "teġbāneh"
fruits "ḳurūn" (= horns),
young and tender “rġúź”. [rrrbi]
Arabic: الضجع نبتة "aldajae nabta" [zzzug]
Southern Yemen: "Uruz",
"Dhaba",
"Dhagohom". [zzzpv]

Dhofar. Very common. After rains, whole plant edible but bitter lower down. Flowers edible, with a distinctive taste and sweet aftertaste, thirst-quenching. Fruit produced abundantly, delicious when young and tender. [rrrbi]

Oman, fresh succulent stems, flowers and young fruit eaten. Stem becomes bitter towards the lower end. [zz79] Oman. Fresh stems edible, bitter towards the base. [rrrcv] Flowers have an unpleasant odor and a distinctive flavour with a sweet aftertaste. [zzzuf] Bright yellow flowers and seed pods eaten after rain when the sap filled juicy stems are collected by local people for food. Extremely bitter, lemon and spices are added. Dried, powdered plant and fresh sold in local markets. [zzzug]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter.[zzzpv]

Oman, fresh stems crushed until soft, squeezed with cloth, applied vs. burns. Juicy stems eaten with salt and lemon vs. diabetes and spleen and liver disorders. Eaten before meal vs. constipation. One cup of juice after food vs. abdominal gas. Juice drunk on its own twice a day vs. blood pressure. [zzzug]

Yemen, consumed fresh vs. rheumatism, diabetes, leprosy, gastric ulcer and as antipyretic. [zzzqq] Used as a coolant vs. itchy skin and burns. [rrrcv]

***Desmidorchis lavrani* (Rauh & Wertel) Meve & Liede**

Yemen, central Abyan governate, Lawdar & Modyah districts: "Uruz". [zzznu]
Lawdar, Modyah & Al-Wadhee districts: "Obar". [zzznu]
Southern Yemen: "Uruz",
"Obar". [zzzpv]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter.[zzzpv]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, fresh young stem pieces eaten vs. diabetes. Juice squeezed from fresh stems smeared on affected area vs. wounds, boils and itching. [zzznu]

***Desmidorchis penicillata* (Deflers) Plowes**

Often reported as *Caralluma penicillata.*

Yemen: "ġulâf aljudarî" [zz72],
"uluth" [zz12].
Yemen, central Abyan governate, Mukeiras district: "Quluth",
Lawdar, Modyah & Al-Wadhee districts: "Uluth". [zzznu]
Saudi Arabia, Aseer region: "gulthi". [zz16]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, stem juice smeared on affected part vs. bleeding, injuries, wounds, psoriasis, itching, acne. Stem paste applied vs. skin inflammation. Small young piece of stem cut, chewed and swallowed vs. abdominal colic and intestinal colic. [zzznu]

Stem local anaesthetic, ophthalmic, antiseptic vs. smallpox. [zz72] Fruits vs. skin rash, scabies. [zz12a] Plant used in traditional Saudi medicine for the treatment of snake and scorpion envenomation. [zz3a] Saudia Arabia, Aseer region, used vs. snake, scorpion bites and as a blood purifier. [zz16]

Saudi Arabia. The plant has been blamed for the mass poisoning of sheep. [zz3a]

***Desmidorchis retrospiciens* Ehrenb.**
Reported as *Caralluma acutangula, Caralluma retrospiciens*, *Caralluma russelliana* and *Caralluma tombuctuensis*.

Mali, Dogonland, (tommo soo dialect): "omolobakadma",
(dogulo soo dialect): "dululu". [zz108]
Kenya, Turkana: "lokisitio",
"lokosurio". [zz15a] [zzztl]
Marakwet: "Mochontopokot". [zzztl]
Northern, Pokot: "amanyan-pukawagh",
"amanyanpachi". [zzzwm]
Sudan, Hadandawa: "Karib". [zz15a]
Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: غلثا "Ghlotha". [fffat]

Sap applied to heal wounds. Pieces placed either side of the boma (compound) to magically protect animals vs. theft or witchcraft. Women wear the stinky flower as decoration. [zz159] Regarded as a fetish by some tribes. Said to be very poisonous and avoided by animals. [zz59]

In Mali the latex vs. new wounds, juice as a coagulant for open wounds and the powder of the upper part applied vs. boils. [zz108] Contains pregnane steroid glycosides and luteolin-4'-O-β-D-neohesperidoside. [zz17a] Burkina Faso, vs. weight gain. [zzzue]

Sudan, Hadandawa: decoction of whole plant vs. wounds. [zz15a]

Northern Kenya, Pokot, food and domestic use. [zzzwm] Kenya, Marakwet, whole plant chewed vs. chest congestion/wheezing. [zzztl]

Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: dried powder of aerial parts macerated with milk for two hours and applied vs. chickenpox, smallpox and measles. [fffat]

Desmidorchis somalica (N.E.Br.) Plowes
Reported as *Caralluma somalica.*

Northern Kenya, Turkana: "lokosurio". [zzzwm]

Northern Kenya, Turkana, medicinal and domestic use, not food. [zzzwm]

***Desmidorchis speciosa* (N.E.Br.) Plowes**
Often reported as *Caralluma speciosa*.

Kenyan Rendille: "biche khúdúmo" = "evil water". [zz98]
Ethiopia, South Welo (Wollo), Oromiffa: "Hada". [zzzmw]

Kenya, latex applied to cure open wounds. Decoction used externally to unblock camel teats. Boys play with flowers, e.g. as a dye. [zz98]

Ethiopia, South Welo (Wollo), Cheffa Area, latex poisonous. Root, seed and latex pounded and cream externally vs. cancer. [zzzmw] Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, fresh root crushed, boiled and drunk vs. ascariasis. [zzzjb]

Diplostigma canescens see ***Vincetoxicum diplostigma***

Dischidanthus thyrsiflorus **(Hook.f.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve {Marsdenieae}**
As well as *Marsdenia thyrsiflora*, previously called *Marsdenia tinctoria* Hook. f., not to be confused with ***Marsdenia tinctoria*** **R. Br.**

Bangladesh, Dacca District. Local doctor claimed that a freshly cut twig inerted vaginally into the uterus would cause abortion within 24 to 48 hours. [rrrcj]

Dischidanthus urceolatus **(Decne.) Tsiang**
China: 馬蘭藤 "ma lan teng" (= horse orchid vine). [zz141]

China, whole plant vs. pain caused by rheumatism. [zz141]

Dischidia **spp. {Marsdenieae}**

Philippines, roots smashed and mixed with tubã (palm sap) to avoid fermentation. [zz188] Philippines, sap vs. boils. [zz188] Philippines, root fragrant. [zz188]

Dischidia acuminata **Cost.**

Indochina, infusion as diuretic and remedy for blenorrhoea (excessive discharge of mucus). [zz177] Vietnam. Decoction of whole plant as diuretic in urethritis.

Thailand, whole plants with *Hoya kerrii* vs. enlarged liver and cirrhosis. Leaves with stems of *Coelogyne trinervis* and *Hoya kerrii* leaves vs. liver dysfunction. [zzzny]

Dischidia bengalensis **Colebr.**
India, Meghalaya: "Samnakhet". [zzzxk]
Thailand, Prachuap Khiri Khan: "thao wan duan",
Surat Thani: "thao hua duan",
Trang: "o lop". [zzzny]

India, Meghalaya. Leaves vs. cuts and wounds. [zzzxk] India, Car Nicobar Island. Boiled leaves squeezed in ear vs. pain from mumps and sores. [zzzjp]

Thailand. Latex vs. ringworm. Roots as a tonic. [zzzny]

Dischidia chinensis **Champ. ex Benth.**
China, Hainan Island: "zhì yǎ wà",
"wòng biāng i". [zz250]

China, Hainan Island. Whole plant toasted and boiled, massage and wash vs. eye disease, rheumatoid arthritis and oedema. [zz250]

Vietnam. Whole plant vs. cough, pimples, wounds and snakebites. [zzzny]

***Dischidia formosana* Maxim.**

Taiwan, used as an anti-inflammatory and diuretic. Contains salicylic acid (the precursor to aspirin that shares its anti-inflammatory properties), a steroid and flavonols. [zz54]

Dischidia gaudichaudii see ***Dischidia nummularia***

***Dischidia imbricata* (Blume) Steud.**

Moluccas:	"Daoen boba" [zzzhh]	
	"gogotifo". [zzzny]	
Indonesia:	"daun boba",	
	"lola paka", [zzzny]	
Thailand,	Chiang Mai:	"kipma lom",
	north:	"bia mai". [zzzny]
Khmer:	"prue-proh". [zzzny]	
Vietnam:	"song ly k[ees]t h[onj]p". [zzzny]	

Ambon, sometimes chewed by youths as an alternative to betel nuts. [zzzhh]

Indonesia, Moluccas. Leaves are heated until supple and bound on feet injured by fire or nails, renewed daily. Used as a decoction to treat gonorrhoea and yaws (frambesia). [zzzhh]

Thailand, whole plant as pills vs. nasal polyps. Leaves vs. pityriasis (tinea) versicolor yeast infection. Dried whole plant as hot water extract and heated fresh stems macerated in alcohol as anti-inflammatory. [zzzny]

***Dischidia major* Merr.**

Reported as *Dischidia rafflesiana*.

India, Meghalaya:	"Bandi Kuri". [zzzxk]	
Malaysia (Peninsular):		"akar kul",
		"akar banok",
		"akar bani". [zzzny]
Thailand,	central:	"chuk rohini",
	north:	"kluai mai",
	east, Ranong:	"thao phung pla". [zzzny]
Vietnam:	"song ly to",	
	"d[aa]y m[or] qu[aj]". [zzzny]	

Malay peninsula, roots from the saccate leaves or creeping stem may be chewed with betel to relieve coughs. [zz177]

Thailand, whole plant decoction vs. peptic ulcers. Leaves with ***Hoya kerrii*** leaves and *Vanilla aphylla* stems vs. liver dysfunction. Roots vs. fever. [zzzny]

India, Meghalaya: root vs. cough. "*Dischidia farrensiana* Wall." is the most likely candidate to be the species meant here, as *Dischidia rafflesiana* Wall. - no other species I could find are close to that bad spelling. [zzzxk]

***Dischidia nummularia* R. Br.**
Previously *Dischidia gaudichaudii*, *Dischidia orbicularis*.

Malay, Moluccas: "Daoen pitis kětjil". [zzzhh]
Malaysia (Peninsular): "pitis-pitis kecil". [zzzny]
Thailand: "klet khai",
central: "bia",
north-east: "top tan ruesi". [zzzny]
Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai: "klet mangkon". [zzzpu]
Vietnam: "song ly",
"m[ooj]c ti[eef]n nh[or]". [zzzny]

Malaya, Moluccas, latex applied as cooling medicine and vs. the nasty venomous stings of ikan swanggi (= "sorceror fish", *Synanceia horrida*, a type of stonefish) and ikan sembilan (*Pterois russelii*, a type of lionfish). Extract of the leaves the size of a nail internally vs. gonorrhoea. [zzzhh]

No locations given. Used to allay the pain of dangerous venomous fish stings, as are "similar plants". Latex and leaves used to correct sprue (a mouth and throat disease) in children. [zz177]

Thailand: whole plant decoction vs. cirrhosis. [zzzny] Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai, leaves from forest used for medicine. [zzzpu]

Dischidia orbicularis see ***Dischidia nummularia***

***Dischidia platyphylla* Schltr.**

Philippines, leaves pressed to make them juicy then applied to "baga" (boils). [zz188]

***Dischidia purpurea* Merr.**
Philippines, Tagalog: "Kalipkip".
Samar-Leyte Bisaya: "Talokop". [zz219]

Leaves are applied as a poultice or cooked with coconut oil to use as an ointment vs. eczema and herpes. [zz177]

Dischidia rafflesiana see ***Dischidia major***

***Dischidia vidallii* Hort.**
Philippines, Tagalog: "Dapo-sa-boho",
"Lobo-lobo". [zz219]

Leaves are crushed with salt and applied to goitre. [zz177]

Dolichopetalum kwangsiense **Tsiang {Marsdenieae}**
China, West Guangxi, Guizhou & Yunnan: 金鳳藤 "jīn fèng téng". [zz141]
(= gold "phoenix" vine. Though often translated as phoenix, the fèng is a Chinese mythical bird quite different from the African/Arabian/European phoenix).

China, West Guangxi, Guizhou & Yunnan. Decoction of all parts vs. viper bites. [zz141]
I just checked the entry on the eFlora of China [zz141] and there is no trace of this use now, in May 2026.

Dregea abyssinica see ***Stephanotis abyssinica***

Dregea arabica see ***Stephanotis arabica***

Dregea corrugata see ***Kushengia sinensis*** **var.** ***corrugata***

Dregea macrantha see ***Stephanotis macrantha***

Dregea rubicunda see ***Stephanotis rubicunda***

Dregea schimperi see ***Stephanotis schimperi***

Dregea sinensis see ***Kushengia sinensis***

Dregea sinensis var. *corrugata* see ***Kushengia sinensis*** **var.** ***corrugata***

Dregea volubilis see ***Stephanotis volubilis***

Duvalia caespitosa **(Masson) Haw. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Southern Africa, stem as snack. [zzznw]

"Duvalia corderoyi"

Oman, Saudi Arabia, Yemen. Used as a vegetable for centuries. [zzzwv]

Arabia. Used vs. hunger, stomach disease and appetite regulation. [zzzwv]

This species is native to South Africa, so seems unlikely to have been used in Arabia for centuries. Three species are known to be found in Arabia: *Duvalia somalensis*, *Duvalia sulcata* and *Duvalia velutina*. [zzzrh]

Duvalia polita **N.E.Br.**
Namibia, !Kung: "ta'ata'aba". [zzzsl]
Jul'hoansi: "taq'àtaq'àbà". [zzzsq]
See also ***Stapelia kwebensis***, ***Orbea huillensis***.
Swaziland: "tililo lomncane".
Name also used for species of *Huernia*, *Orbea* and *Stapelia*. [zz144]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, entire plant eaten roasted pounded with other foods such as *Schinziophyton rautenenii* (Euphorbiaceae) nuts, but not favoured. Considered only fit for the elderly and during famines. [zzzsq] Namibia?, strongly developed underground shoots (containing a considerable amount of water) baked in glowing embers and eaten. [zzzsl]

Swaziland, edible underground stems. Water source. [zz144] Southern Africa, whole plant, stem as snack and vegetable. Stem for moisture. [zzznw]

Duvalia somalensis see ***Duvalia corderoyi***

Duvalia sulcata see ***Duvalia corderoyi***

Duvalia velutina see ***Duvalia corderoyi***

Duvaliandra dioscoridis **(Lavranos) M.G.Gilbert {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**
Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "[mish'hermihum?] di giribig'hitin" (= "of the wild cats"). [rrrbd]
See ***Monolluma socotrana***.

Socotra. Not generally eaten but flowers and young fruit said to be edible by herders. [rrrbd]

E

***Echidnopsis* spp. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Arabian Peninsula, eaten, as snack food by herders. [zz79]

***Echidnopsis bentii* N.E.Br. ex Hook.f.**
Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "taba'sh",
"towba'sh",
"tabighash",
"ziberbiher". [rrrbd]
See also Socotran *Echidnopsis* species below and ***Socotrella dolichocnema***.

Socotra. Islanders view some plants as "taba'sh di teytin" (= sheep's *Echidnopsis*) and inedible, others are "taba'sh di irihan" (= goat's *Echidnopsis*) and edible. This may for the condition of the plant rather than species. The edible plants are eaten raw and are quite pleasant and sweet when young. Lessens thirst. Generally only eaten in the hungrier parts of the island. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Stems crushed to clean hands. [rrrbd]

***Echidnopsis dammanniana* Sprenger**
Northern Kenya, Pokot: "chemngrimen",
"chepuguremen",
"chemngaum". [zzzwm]

Northern Kenya, Pokot, food and domestic use. [zzzwm]

***Echidnopsis inconspicua* Bruyns**

Socotra. Names and uses as ***Echidnopsis bentii***. [rrrbd]

***Echidnopsis insularis* Lavranos**

Socotra. Names and uses as ***Echidnopsis bentii***. [rrrbd]

***Echidnopsis milleri* Lavranos**

Socotra. Names and uses as ***Echidnopsis bentii***. [rrrbd]

Echidnopsis planiflora **P.R.O. Bally**
Dhofar, Jibbali: "ḏeġúbsī",
"duġebós". [rrrbi] See also ***Rhytidocaulon fulleri.***

Dhofar. Tiny shoots no longer than a finger come up in the rainy season. Flowers, fruit and stem are all edible - astringent, slightly sour and very thirst-quenching. [rrrbi]

Echidnopsis scutellata **subsp.** ***dhofarensis*** **Bruyns**
Oman, Jibbalī: "degubsi",
"dugebos". [rrrcv]

Southern Oman. All parts edible. Shoots slightly sour, very thirst-quenching. [rrrcv]

Echidnopsis socotrana **Lavranos**

Socotra. Names and uses as ***Echidnopsis bentii.*** [rrrbd]

Ectadiopsis brevifolia see ***Cryptolepis volubilis***

Ectadiopsis volubilis see ***Cryptolepis volubilis***

Edithcolea grandis **N. E. Br. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**
Includes *Edithcolea sordida.*

Kenyan Chamus "l-okorósio". [zz96]
Socotra, Soqotri: "Mushharmohum". [zzzdu]
Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "mish'hermihiym di girbak" (= "Carallumas for wild cats").
"mish'hermihiym di girboy".
"mish'hermihiym di girbig'hitin".
"mish'hermihim afir" (= "red Caralluma").
"mish'khayrem di 'aghirib" [rrrbd]
(= "hunger-stiller of the ravens"). [rrrbd]

Kenya, Chamus. The top end of the stem is chewed. For strength in children the root or whole plant is boiled and milk added. [zz96]

Ethiopia, Somalia stems eaten as a vegetable. [zz117] Somalia, "leaves" chewed, the Socotran variety is more bitter. [zzzdu]

Socotra. Not normally eaten by people, hence the names "for the wild cats" and "of the ravens". In hunger the tender growing tips and young fruit may be nibbled. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Pounded stems made into a paste and applied vs. dry eczema, especially on the hands. Also vs. deep fissures in the thick skin of the heel. The same paste smeared on teats/udders of livestock vs. sores and on bare patches of skin in sheep, camels and goats vs. mange. [zzzdu]

Socotra. Stems crushed to clean hands. [rrrbd]

Kenya, Chamus. The name is mentioned as a blessing during circumcision ceremonies. [zz96]

Socotra. Birds make their nests with the silky fluff that sourrounds the ripe seeds. [zzzdu] I would imagine this is true of many asclepiads around the world.

I pruned some of the growing stems from a plant I had been growing for 18 months and peeled off the spines. The flesh was alright, very slightly bitter in a wholesome way. No other particular flavour. The texture and juiciness was about the same as a young raw turnip. I wouldn't bother eating it again. [me]

Elcomarhiza amylacea see ***Ruehssia amylacea***

Exolobus patens see ***Gonolobus rostratus***

F

***Finlaysonia obovata* Wall. {Periplocoideae}**
India: "lata rai". [zzzmq]
Myanmar: "Byauk-nwe". [zzzxn]
Malaya, Moluccas: "Daoen korpo laki-laki". [zzzhh]
Ambon: "kapok kapok". [zzzmt]
Java: "Klak kambing",
"Ojod kambing". [zzzhh]

Maluku Islands, leaves as salad. [zzzmp, zzzmq]

Part 5 of the *Herbarium Amboinense* of Georg Eberhard Rumphius was published in 1747, though Rumphius had died in 1702. It was an impressive work detailing the flora of Ambon Island in the Maluku islands, now ruled by Indonesia. Rumphius had worked for the Dutch East India Company, helping to turn as much profit as possible from invading peoples with rich resources. In 1917, the *Olus crepitans mas* (Latin = male rattling/creaking/crackling vegetable) of Rumphius was identified from the drawing in the *Herbarium Amboinense* by Karel Heyne as the coastal mangrove climber *Finlaysonia obovata*. [zzzhh] In November of the same year Elmer Merrill agreed with this identification of *Olus crepitans mas* by Karel Heyne. [zzzmt] My translation from the Dutch and Latin, though I don't understand either language:

> "Use. Commonly eaten raw with pickles and horseshoe crab eggs, as it makes a crunchy sound while being eaten, and provides a pleasant saltiness. The leaves can also be mixed in salad but that is not usual among all the aforesaid nations."

In the Latin of Rumphius (in the *Herbarium Amboinense* or *Het Amboinsch Kruid-Boek*):

> "Usus. Magis adhibetur, ut crudum edatur cum Ats-jaar, & Bocassan, quum inter edendum crepitum e-dat, ac gratam præbeat salsedinem. Folia etiam La-ctucæ; admisceri, & edi possunt, sed apud omnes istas nationes non sunt in usu."

In the Dutch of Rumphius:

> "Gebruik. Het werd meer gebruikt om raauw te eeten met Atsjaar, en Bocassan, om dat het in 't knouwen kraakt, en een aangename sutigheid heeft. Men kan de bladeren ook onder Salade mengen, en eeten, doch niet by alle de voorsebreeven natie gebruikelyk." [zzzms]

Finlaysonia pierrei **(Costantin) Venter**
Often reported as *Atherolepis pierrei*.

Thailand: "Chueak-thao",
"Kham-yan",
"Khruea-khao-mai",
"Ku-din",
"Op-choei-thao", [zzzsm] see also ***Zygostelma benthami***.
"Op Choei Thao". [zzzhj]
"Op-choei-pa",
"Tao-hueak-kao". [zzzsm]
Yasothon Province, Kut Chum District: "Bak tam yan". [rrrej]
Northeast, Roi Et Province: "Bak tam yarn". [rrrek]

Thailand. Young fruit as a vegetable. [zzzsm] Thailand, Yasothon Province, Kut Chum District. 27 reports that the unripe fruit is edible. [rrrej] Edible fruit sold for 100 to 120 Thai bhat per kilo during 4 or 5 months of the year. Out of the 13 wild fruit in the study, only two commanded the same high price per kilo – *Aegle marmelos* (Rutaceae) and *Irvingia malayana* (Irvingiaceae). Average earnings per trader per year for just this fruit are 7700 Thai bhat. [rrrek]

Thailand, Chiang Rai, Doi Chang Plantation. If Google Translate is correct it is eaten raw as a vegetable dip. [zzzhi]

Northeastern Thailand, Roi Et Province. Inflorescence as antipyretic. [rrrek] Thailand, Chiang Rai, Doi Chang Plantation, medicinal. If Google Translate is correct it is a carminative tonic. [zzzhi] Thailand. Root vs. headaches. [zzzsm] Carminative and heart tonic. [zzzhj]

Fischeria stellata **(Vell.) E.Fourn. {Asclepiadeae - Gonolobinae}**
Argentina, Misiones, Guarani: "yryvu ka'a" (= turkey vulture herb). [zzzqf]
Brazil, São Paulo, Ubatuba: "urtiga" (= nettle). [zzzqg]

Argentina, Misiones, Guarani, used in magic. [zzzqf]

One of two known (in the year 2021) species of asclepiad that have true stinging hairs with venom, see also ***Chloropetalum denticulatum***. [zzzqg]

Fockea **spp. {Fockeeae}**

S. Africa. Tincture in brandy as liniment for back pain. [zz241]

Edible species called "!xwa" by !Kung San of Nyae Nyae, usually eaten raw as soon as they are dug up. Important source of liquid. People can live on these for a time without any water. Popular name "water bottle". [zz151]

Namibia and S. Angola, Ovambo: "enowa" name for Fockea species, large bulbous watery tuber containing soporific juice. [zz62]

Fockea angustifolia **K. Schum.**
Southern Africa: "Kambaroo",
"Kambroo". [zz248, zzzsl]
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "gxòá". [zzzsq]
!Kung: "g!xoa". [zzzsl]
Namib desert, Nama: "ǂhawab",
"ǂhapab". [zzzgu]
Namibia, Damara/Nama: "≠hawab",
Herero/Himba: "otjimbuya",
Kwanyama & Ndonga, Ovamboland: "enongo",
Kwangali, Kavango: "ecava",
Gciriku & Shambyu, Kavango: "licava",
Mbukushu, Kavango: "dicava",
Botswana, Shorobe Village: "Leruswa". [zzzig] See also ***Stomatostemma monteiroae.***

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, large tuber sought-after food but can take a long time to dig out as it goes deep. Refreshingly juicy, crisp flesh. Peeled and eaten raw, often eaten on the spot. Can be cooked with meat. [zzzsq] S. Africa. Tuber eaten raw or boiled with sugar. [zz241] Edible as food and drink. Boiled with sugar to make preserves like those made from figs and melons. [zz150] San eat the tuber. Crunchy and moist. White flesh has the faint but rather pleasant flavour of coconut ice. [zz88] Namib desert, Nama, watery tuber eaten roasted. [zzzgu] Namibia. Tuber edible. [zzzsl] Northern Botswana, Shorobe Village, tubers eaten as snack and meal, source of water. Available October to March. [zzzig] Southern Africa, tuber edible. [zzznx] Southern Africa, unknown part for moisture as snack, vegetable and sweet preserve. [zzznw]. Namibia, latex from arm-long tubers thirst-quenching and drinkable. [zzzsl]

Soap from shavings. [zz144]

Fockea capensis **Endl.**
Formerly *Fockea crispa* and *Fockea edulis* var. *capensis.*

Southern Africa: "Kambaroo",
"Kambroo". [zz248]

S. Africa. Inedible. [zz241] Edible. [zz248] Only the watery fluid is of use. [zz150] Southern Africa, unknown part for moisture as snack, vegetable and sweet preserve. [zzznw]

Fockea comaru **N.E.Br**
Sometimes reported as *Fockea gracilis*

Southern Africa: "Bergkambroo" (= mountain kambroo). [zz41]

Cape province. Edible tuber. [zz19a] Tubers dug out and eaten. [zz41] Karoo, tubers eaten to suppress hunger and thirst. Well-known food. [zz247] Southern Africa, unknown part for moisture as snack, vegetable and sweet preserve. [zzznw]

Fockea crispa see ***Fockea capensis***

Fockea cylindrica see ***Fockea edulis***

Fockea edulis **K. Schum.**
Sometimes reported as *Fockea cylindrica.*

Southern Africa: "Kambaroo",
"Kambroo". [zz248]

S. Africa. Tubers grow to as much as 58 pounds (26 kilos) in weight or more. [zz150] Up to 1 metre in diameter [zz41] or 1 metre long and 310mm diameter. [zz57] Tubers eaten raw or cooked. Centre of tuber used instead of watermelon rind in "konfyt", a type of jam. [zz241] Cape province: edible tuber. [zz19a] Karoo, tubers eaten to suppress hunger and thirst. Well-known food. [zz247] Southern Africa, unknown part for moisture as snack, vegetable, meal and sweet preserve. [zzznw]

Leaf used as vegetable in Japan. [zz241] This report (and more recent repeats that I have noticed) concerning Japan could be some confusion as Heber Drury reported in 1858 [zz66] that the Japanese eat the leaves of "*Pergularia edulis*". As *Pergularia edulis* Thunb. this was one of the names of *Fockea edulis* from 1794. There is a tuberous climber that provides edible leaves, young fruit and tubers to the Japanese [zz70], called *Metaplexis japonica* (Thunb.) Makino since 1903. It was called *Pergularia japonica* Thunb. since 1784. As 1858 was only five years after Captain Perry started his gunboat diplomacy to end Japan's seclusion it is possible that the botanical reports were not then all of the highest quality. See ***Cynanchum rostellatum***, the current name of that species. [zz231, me]

Tasting notes: Small tuber grown in England, weighing 48g, after peeling the thick cortex 25g. Eaten on the 24th of October, obviously some time into its dry season. Latex mildly astringent, mildly bitter but acceptable. Good, creamy texture turning to gluey on the lips after a few minutes. Inside of the tuber woolly texture like a limp parsnip but easy to chew, not fibrous. Hint of bitterness but nothing compared to green lettuce. Very juicy. The top third was more woolly, the bottom two-thirds getting juicier and a little crisper. None of it was difficult to chew. Subtle pleasant root vegetable flavours, none dominating but not characterless either. Nice aftertaste. [me]

Thanks to Croston Cactus [zz58] for selling me the excellent plants, which had not had pesticides applied for 4 weeks.

Fockea edulis var. *capensis* see ***Fockea capensis***

Fockea gracilis see ***Fockea comaru***

Fockea multiflora **K.Schum.**
English: "vegetable python". [zz57]

Tanzania, Gulwe District, the sweetly-scented flowers sometimes used as a vegetable. [zz41]

Namibia, extract of aerial parts in brandy back rub vs. backache. [zz201]

All of its range, latex is used in arrow poison. Namibia, latex added to food as a criminal poison or to poison large predators. [zz201]

Fockea sinuata **(E. Mey.) Druce**
Also reported as *Fockea undulata*.

South Africa, Namibia: "vlak-kambroo". [zz41]

Edible as food and drink. Boiled with sugar to make preserves like those made from figs and melons. [zz150] Tubers often dug up and eaten. [zz41] Southern Africa, unknown part as snack and sweet preserve. [zzznw] S. Africa. Tuber eaten raw or boiled with sugar. [zz241]

Fockea undulata see ***Fockea sinuata***

Folotsia sp. see ***Cynanchum*** **spp.**

Folotsia sarcostemmoides see ***Cynanchum grandidieri***

Frerea indica see ***Boucerosia frerei***

Funastrum bilobum **(Hook. & Arn.) J.F.Macbr. {Asclepiadeae - Oxypetalinae}**
Mexico, Campeche: "Gu xuch",
"Xyax-hux",
"Yax ux",
"Cawayat",
"Camallote".
Oaxaca: "Guete". [rrrel]

Campeche, Calakmul. Used vs. spots/boils (granos in Spanish) on skin and arms.
Campeche, Hopel-chén. Latex eaten and leaves chewed to lessen the effects of snakebites. [rrrel]

Funastrum bonariense see ***Funastrum clausum***

Funastrum clausum **(Jacq.) Schltr.**
Reported as *Sarcostemma clausum, Funastrum bonariense* and *Funastrum cumanense*.

Argentina, Chorote, Yójwaha "táhsa",
Yówujwa "hú'ta". [zzzrj]
East Chaco, Toba: "mel(e)g*r*añí",
"mel(a)g*r*añí". [zzzpc]
Chaco, Vilela: "soonók". [zzzpb]
Colombia, Spanish: "bejuco lechoso" (milky vine). [zzzrh]
"bejuco sapo" (toad vine). [zzzrh]
"bejuco cebollo" (onion vine). [zzzrh]
Northern Peru: "Marrajudio". [zzzuu]
Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní: "Supua koroi",
"Supua rokɨ mi", (= small ***Araujia odorata***).
"Supua käti".
(see also ***Funastrum gracile***, ***Araujia*** sp. and ***Philibertia gilliesii).*** [zzzep]

Costa Rica: "Mata Tórsalo",
Mexico: "Bejuco de Leche". [zzzeb][rrrel]
"Petaquilla",
"quichi-nixi". [zzzeb]
Campeche: “Pulukcion ak”,
“Ya-axhux”,
“Yax-ak”.[rrrel]
El Salvador: "Cuchamperrito",
"Bejuco de pescado". [zzzeb]

Argentina, Chorote, tender, unripe fruit, raw as vegetable. [zzzrj] Argentina, East Chaco, Toba, fruit eaten raw or boiled after removing the corky pericarp. Eaten especially when green. [zzzpc] Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, tender fruit eaten. [zzzpb]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní, see also ***Araujia brachystephana***. very young fruit (in April) eaten boiled or fried. Not edible raw. [zzzep] South America, Gran Chaco - Fruit eaten by Chorote, Guaraní-Izoceño, Pilagá, Western & Eastern Toba, Vilela and Wichi. [fffaq]

Mexico, Northeast. Fruit and inflorescences edible. [rrreo]

Costa Rica, acrid juice of the crushed leaves applied to kill tórsalo larvae, a parasitic bot fly that attacks humans and burrows into the skin. [zzzeb]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní. Latex and ashes of the whole plant applied to wounds and sores to form a scab. Kuarirenda, a fistful of the aerial parts boiled and taken in small glassfuls vs. haemorrhage during pregnancy, labour or soon after and vs. long or heavy menstruation. [zzzep]

Mexico, Campeche. Leaves used vs. boils and rashes. [rrrel] Northern Peru, fresh leaf with Retama (*Senna occidentalis* or *Spartium junceum*) flower, Quinual (*Polylepis racemosa*), Chuco (?) flower and eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*) - decoction, boiled for three minutes. Added to bath vs. *susto* (fright - a psychic ailment), rashes, pimples, cold sores, skin marks. 2 to 3 times a week as needed. Alternatively stem latex applied twice a day. Fresh leaf and stem boiled for 10 minutes, drunk cold three times a week in the morning to promote lactation in women when breastfeeding. [zzzuu]

Colombia, stem fibres for basketry. [zzzrh] El Salvador, fishermen string fish on the tough stems. [zzzeb] Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní. latex to glue paper. [zzzep] Mexico, Nayarit. Fish poison. Mexico, Oaxaca. Forage for goats. [rrrel]

Funastrum cynanchoides **(Decne.) Schltr.**
Reported as *Sarcostemma cynanchoides*.

Mexico, Chihuahua: "hierba del indio". [zzzej]
Mayo: "huichori". [zzzgi]

Mexico, Sonora, Seri, wash of decoction of branches and leaves vs. severe headache. Tea of branches and leaves vs. black widow bite. Eyedrops made by boiling roots. [zzzao] Herb boiled in water as wash vs. scorpion sting. Latex vs. calluses and corns. [zzzgi]

Funastrum cynanchoides subsp. *heterophyllum* see ***Funastrum heterophyllum***

Funastrum elegans **(Decne.) Schltr.**

Mexico,	Guanajuato:	“Aljombría del campo”,
		“Ortiguilla” (= little nettle?). [rrrel]
	Hidalgo:	“Tlalayote de coyote”. [rrrel][rrrep]
		“Tlalayote”. [rrrep]
	Michoacán:	“Atuas”.
	Oaxaca:	“Guizh-IbÚ”,
		“IbE-guiee-zhip”,
		“guizh-IbE-guiee”,
		“guizh-nquits-IbE”.
	Querétaro:	“Corona de novia” (= bride's crown). [rrrel]

Michoacán, Tzintzuntzan. Fruit edible. [rrrel]

Guanajuato. Used vs. stomach-ache, menstrual cholic. [rrrel][rrrep]

Funastrum glaucum **(Kunth) Schltr.**
Reported as *Sarcostemma glaucum*.

Venezuela, emetic as substitute for ipecac. [zzzdh]

Funastrum gracile **(Decne.) Schltr.**
Often given as *Sarcostemma gracile*.

Argentina,		Northwestern Chaco:	"tramontana". [zzzeh]
	Chorote,	iyojwá'ja:	"néekiak",
		iyowújwa:	"néekiek". [zzzdf]
		Yójwaha:	"neekiák",
		Yówujwa:	"néek′yek". [zzzrj]
Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní:			"Supua käti". [zzzep]

Argentina, Chorote, Stems and leaves, raw. Ground as vegetable, consumed with salt and water. Also as an ingredient in a salad with other vegetables, fruit and roots and flavoured with salt, wild chili (*Capsicum chacoense*, Solanaceae) and *Acmella oppositifolia* (Asteraceae, now called *Heliopsis buphthalmoides* – possibly for a numbing/tingling flavour like Szechuan pepper). [zzzrj] South America, Gran Chaco - Flowers, fruit, leaves and stem eaten by Chorote, Western Toba and Wichi. [fffaq]

Argentina, Northwestern Chaco, aerial parts as fodder for cows to aid milk production. [zzzeh] Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní, see also ***Philibertia gilliesii*** and ***Marsdenia*** **sp.** Aerial parts well-mashed and applied to temples and head vs. headache. Latex from cut stem as eyedrops vs. conjunctivitis. Latex applied vs. sores and wounds. [zzzep]

Argentina, Chorote, stem and leaves as bait in fishing for particular species. [zzzdf]

Funastrum hartwegii see ***Funastrum heterophyllum***

***Funastrum heterophyllum* (Engelm. ex Torr.) Standl.**
Often reported as *Philibertia heterophylla, Funastrum cynanchoides* subsp. *heterophyllum* and *Funastrum hartwegii*.

California, Luiseño: "Towunla". [zzzll]
SW Arizona: “güirote”,
“Climbing milkweed”. [fffau]
Mexico, Jalisco: "hortensia de guía". [zzzeb]

California, Luiseño, eaten raw with salt. [zzzll] Mexico, Northeast. Fruit and inflorescences edible. [rrreo]

Southwest North America, Pima and Papago, latex cooked in various ways made into chewing gum, especially for children. [iiilg] Flowers marginally edible, taste of onions. Hia-Ced O’odham (“Sand Papagos”) prepared the plant with fire, heat and water for making chewing gum. [fffau]

Mexico, Sinaloa, used vs. snakebite.[zzzeb]

***Funastrum pannosum* (Decne.) Schltr.**
Reported as *Sarcostemma pannosum*.

Mexico, Sinaloa: "Talayotillo". [zzzeb]
Nayarit: “Madre”.
Oaxaca: “Cochinito”. [rrrel]

Mexico, Nayarit & Oaxaca, Santo Domingo Tehuantepec. Fruit edible. [rrrel] Mexico, Northeast. Inflorescences edible. [rrreo] Oaxaca, Tehuantepec municipality. Herbarium specimens collected on the 23rd of August 1988 mention the fruit is edible. [rrrem] [rrren]

Mexico. In a 2026 article, Mark Fishbein stated that this species has edible fruit, citing notes on unspecified herbarium specimens. [rrrch]

Mexico, Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley, used as fodder for animals. [zzzkf]

G

Genianthus laurifolius see ***Genianthus micranthus***

Genianthus micranthus **(Roxb.) I.M.Turner {Secamonoideae}**
Reported as *Genianthus laurifolius.*

India, Katchal Island, Nicobarese: "pönyam". [zzzjx]
Andaman Islands, Negrito Islanders, "pholobolo". [zzzkc]

India, Katchal Island, Nicobarese, decoction of leaves with leaves of *Annona reticulata*, *Annona squamosa* (Annonaceae) and *Jasminum multiflorum* (Oleaceae) with sugar vs. stomach troubles. [zzzjx]

India, Andaman Islands, Negrito Islanders, fibres separated from bark used for nets, bowstrings, fastening of adzes, turtle spears, etc. [zzzkc]

Glossonema boveanum see ***Cynanchum boveanum***

Glossonema boveanum ssp. *nubicum* see ***Cynanchum boveanum* ssp. *nubicum***

Glossonema edule see ***Cynanchum registanense***

Glossonema nubicum see ***Cynanchum boveanum* subsp. *nubicum***

Glossonema revoili see ***Cynanchum revoilii***

Glossonema thruppii see ***Cynanchum thruppii***

Glossonema varians see ***Cynanchum registanense***

Glossostelma spathulatum **(K.Schum.) Bullock {Asclepiadeae – Asclepiadinae}**

Democratic Republic of Congo, tuber decoction rectally vs. discharge of mucus. Tuber chewed as aphrodisiac. [zzzpz]

Gomphocarpus abyssinicus **Decne. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Ethiopia, Mount Scholloda: "Domàito". [zzznv]

Ethiopia, Mount Scholloda, milky juice applied to heal licheniform ulcers. In the original Latin: "succus lacteus ut e similibus imponitur ulceribus licheniformibus sanandis." The similar one used in the same way referred to is presumably ***Gomphocarpus fruticosus*** which has the same local name. [zzznv]

Gomphocarpus fruticosus **(L.) W.T.Aiton**

Lesotho, "moithimolo" (= one who causes sneezing), "lebejane". [zzzrr]
Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Moethimōlo" (= "He who causes sneezing"),
"Molimōla" (= "He who reveals"),
"Lebeyana" (= "Small cream"). [zzznz]
Suto: "moethimolo",
"lebejana" (= small cream). [zzzbf]
Zulu: "usinga lwa salugase" (= old woman's sinews). [zzzbf]
"umsinga-lwesalukazi". [zzzbn]
Namibia, Herero: "oruseppa". [zzzsl]
Damara/Nama: "//horapob",
"/gitama//ob". [zzzsl]
Afrikaans: "wilde kapok",
"melkbos". [zzzsl]
Madagascar, Malagasy: "fandemy",
"fanoro",
"fanory". [zzzrd, fffao]
Betsimisaraka: "Matsivina",
Hova: "Poaka",
Betsileo: "Tandemy". [fffao]
Northern Kenya, Pokot: "chepokors",
Marakwet: "jebaleleiya". [zzzwm]
Ethiopia, Mount Scholloda: "Domàito". [zzznv]
Northern, Eastern Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District: "Demayto". [zzzpd]
Amhara Region, North Shewa Zone, Ankober District: "Ash Hareg". [zzzoq]
Amhara Region, Minjar-Shenkora District: "Arut". [zzzie]
Southeastern, Mana Angetu District: "Dibe galla". [zzzjb]
Southern Oromia, Borana Pastoralists: "Dhuufiftuu". [zzzla]
Djibouti, Region of Randa: "Qagri aboya". [zzzpt]
Dhofar, Jibbali: "ḥerúm ã'ún" (= eye-inflammation plant, from the irritant latex). [rrrbi]
"ĩśenú eṯīrīn" (= hyena's garden plot - toxic and grows neatly). [rrrbi]
inedible, toxic fruit - " 'agereyz " (= testicles, as they are in pairs). [rrrbi]
China: 釘頭果 "ding tou guo" (= nail head fruit). [zz141]
Catalan: "Tintorell" [zzzdb] (a name also used for the poisonous, medicinal and yellow dye plants *Daphne gnidium* and *Daphne mezereum* [zzzaa]).
"cotoner",
"flor de dragó" (= dragon flower). [zzzde]
Spanish: "árbol de la seda" (= silk tree),
"mata de la seda" (= silk bush),
"miraguano". [zzzde]
Morocco: "siba". [zzzde]

Southern Africa. Food? Undetermined part as vegetable. [zzznw][rrrcs] Northern Kenya, Pokot. Food and domestic use. [zzzwm] Morocco, consumed in tea. [zzzde]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau. In 1917, "Used as a cure for a cold in the head. The silky hairs of the seeds are used to make pillows." [zzznz] Lesotho: Leaf sap into nostrils as decongestant and vs. headaches. Crushed, burned plant as snuff vs. head colds. Small doses vs. excess bile or asthma. [zzzrr] Suto, dried, scraped stem snuffed, especially vs. fainting. Zulu, fresh leaves crushed and soaked in water or milk. Liquid given to children vs. stomach problems. [zzzbf, zz241] Suto, plant vs. runny nose. Powdered leaf in common use among Europeans as snuff vs. pulmonary tuberculosis. Produces violent, prolonged sneezing with no other effect. Baca, leaf and latex as purgative enema. [zz241]

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, poisonous, medicinal "Gynaecological - taken regularly during pregnancy". "Gastrointestinal - given to infants or children". "Respiratory - includes use as emetic". "Headaches". No further details. [zzziz] Namibia, Outjo, Bergdamara, leaf tea drunk and body rubbed with tea and leaves vs. skin cancer, body swaddled in blankets after. Powdered leaf to cause sneezing. [zzzsl]

Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Minjar-Shenkora District, powdered root applied vs. haemorrhoids. [zzzie] Amhara Region, North Shewa Zone, Ankober District, fresh root decoction drunk vs. gout. [zzzoq] Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, fresh or dried leaves applied(?) vs. sores. [zzzjb] Northern Ethiopia, Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District, fresh root is chewed, liquid sucked vs. abdominal pain. Plant latex painted and rubbed on infected body vs. cutaneous leishmaniasis. [zzzpd] Southern Oromia, Borana Pastoralists, leaves for vomiting (to produce or to cure is unclear). [zzzla] See also ***Gomphocarpus abyssinicus***.

Northern Kenya, Pokot & Marakwet. Medicinal use. [zzzwm]

Madagascar, as *Gomphocarpus cornutus*, foliage and roots vs. asthma and as emetic. [zz237] Dried, powdered leaf as snuff vs. headache and tuberculosis and as emetic to strengthen the body. Roots vs. stomach pain and general body ache. Contains cardiac glycosides that can kill humans and animals. [zzzbn] Madagascar, plant reputed to be weakening. Used vs. bloating. Used vs. disease in cattle. [zzzrd]

China, decoction of all parts vs. stomach trouble, leaves vs. tuberculosis of lungs. [zz141]

Djibouti, Region of Randa, fresh leaves soaked in water for two hours, water as shower bath vs. skin diseases. [zzzpt] Yemen, Hajjah district, leaf powder applied to dissolve cancerous tumours. [zzzqv]

Dhofar. Plant regarded as toxic and noxious. Plant crushed to express the latex then smeared on the hairy side of skins to remove hair. The hide would be buried for a few hours or more depending on the type and thickness of the hide. The enfeebled hair would then be scraped off and the hide tanned to make leather. [rrrbi]

England, rarely seen as adulterant in senna leaves, like ***Solenostemma arghel***. [zzzct] Catalonia, Alt Empordà, enema of infusion of leaves with stems and branches as laxative. Root to stun fish, which rise to the surface and are easily collected. [zzzdb] Spain, Valencia & Murcia. Dried leaf and roots vs. headaches, tuberculosis and as emetic. [zzzde]

Namibia, can kill livestock but seldom eaten. [zzzsl]

Powdered root of an *Asclepias* sp. resembling this (reported then as *Asclepias fruticosa* L.) or the ssp. *decipiens,* thrown on the door of the intended victim as an evil charm. [zz241] Snuff until sneezing to bring back ancestors. [zz144]

Floss from seeds has been used as tinder. [zzzbn] Africa, seed floss used for stuffing pillows [zz237] but inferior to kapok. [zz241] China, floss from seeds to stuff pillows. [zz141] Ancient Roman ships found at Pisa San Rossore were found to have ropes with a large proportion of ***Calotropis*** and *Gomphocarpus* fibre. [zzzfm] Italy, seed fibres have been used as wadding. [zzzco] Spain, Spanish Levant (Valencia and Murcia), seed hairs used in making gloves since the middle of the 17th Century. [zzzde] Madagascar. Silky fluff from seeds used to make blankets, cushions, quilts, etc. [fffao]

***Gomphocarpus fruticosus* subsp. *decipiens* (N.E.Br.) Goyder & Nicholas**
Sometimes reported as *Asclepias decipiens*.

Lesotho: "moithimolo-oa-thaba". [zzzrr]
Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Moethimōlo oa thaba"
(= "He of the mountain who causes sneezing"),
"Molimōla oa thaba" (= "He of the mountain who reveals"),
"Lebeyana la thaba" (= "The small cream of the mountain"). [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "Used as a snuff and as a medicine for sore breasts." [zzznz]
Lesotho: "snuff from burnt crushed whole plant smoked for head and chest colds". [zzzrr]
Southern Sotho, used as snuff and vs. sore breasts. Tswana and Kwena powdered plant as ointment applied vs. cramp. [zz241]

***Gomphocarpus fruticosus* subsp. *fruticosus* (L.) W.T.Aiton**
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Bapedi traditional healers: "Motsotsa poo /thaka" [zzzuy]
Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "mutshulwa",
"mubvafhisa". [zzzov]

South Africa, Limpopo Province, Bapedi traditional healers. Root boiled for 15 minutes vs. erectile dysfunction. [zzzuy] (Same authors, location and healers) Root boiled for 5-15 minutes, extract taken three times a day vs. impotence. [rrrac]

South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, leaf as medicine. [zzzov]

***Gomphocarpus glaucophyllus* Schltr.**
Swaziland: "umbohlobohlo".

Swaziland. Edible young leaves. [zz144] Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw]

Swaziland. Medicinal. [zz144]

***Gomphocarpus integer* (N.E.Br.) Bullock**
Northern Kenya, Pokot: "Jaboreru". [zzzwm]
Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District: "Harmala". [zzzjb]

Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, fresh or dried leaves crushed and tied on vs. sores. Fresh or dried root vs. gonorrhoea. Fresh or dried root crushed, boiled and drunk vs. kidney problems. Fresh root and leaves crushed and drunk vs. gastritis. Fresh root and leaves crushed vs. haemorrhoids. [zzzjb]

Northern Kenya, Pokot. Medicinal use. [zzzwm]

Gomphocarpus orbicularis see ***Xysmalobium orbiculare***

Gomphocarpus pedunculatus see ***Stathmostelma pedunculatum***

***Gomphocarpus physocarpus* E.Mey.**
Zulu: "umsinga-lwesalukazi". [zzzbn]
Uganda, Bulamogi: "Kyayo". [zz223]
China: 鈍釘頭果 "dun ding tou guo" (= blunt nail head fruit). [zz141]

S. Africa, leaves used to strengthen body. Powdered leaf used as a sedative. [zzzbj] Easily confused with ***Gomphocarpus fruticosus,*** which has the same name in Zulu. Dried, powdered leaf as snuff vs. headache and tuberculosis and as emetic to strengthen the body. Contains cardiac glycosides that can kill humans and animals. [zzzbn] South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, poisonous, medicinal, "Newly-born infants - includes enema administration". "Charm". No further details. [zzziz] Uganda, Bulamogi. Undefined part eaten with ground nut (groundnut = peanut?) paste vs. hypertension. [zz223] China, introduced and cultivated for medicine in South Guangdong and Hainan. [zz141]

Fine, strong fibre from bark. [zz241, zzzco] Floss from seeds used as tinder. [zzzbn]

***Gomphocarpus semilunatus* A.Rich.**
Kenya, Mau Forest, Ogiek: "Toiliotilio". [rrraw]
Tanzania: "Boulouba". [zzzdq]

Kenya, Mau Forest, Ogiek. Leaves chewed vs. toothache. Latex applied twice daily vs. gum lesions until they disappear. About 500g of roots boiled in 2 litres of water. 200 ml drunk vs. syphilis, gonorrhoea or gastroenteritis. [rrraw] Uganda, Baganda, bark chewed vs. vomiting. [zz241]

Lake Tanganyika, fibres for especially rot-proof fishing nets. [zzzdq] Fibre of considerable length for rough textiles. Uganda, seed floss for stuffing and padding. [zz241]

***Gomphocarpus stenophyllus* Oliv.**
Often reported as *Asclepias leucocarpa*.

Ethiopia, Bahirdar Zuria district, Amharic: "Chifrig". [zzzwl]

Masai, thought to be highly poisonous. [zz241] Ethiopia, Bahirdar Zuria district, root paste applied inside the vagina vs. gonorrhoea and leucorrhoea. [zzzwl]

***Gomphocarpus tomentosus* Burch.**
Kwanyama, Ovamboland: "etamupya",
"etampia". [zzzsl]

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144] Reported as the Californian native *Asclepias californica*, clearly the result of confusion. *Gomphocarpus tomentosus* (Torr.) A. Gray. was a previous name, now invalid, for ***Asclepias californica***, which see for uses of that species.

Namibia, Grootfontein North, Khoisan crush and grind stems and leaves, powder inhaled to loosen mucus in head colds. Decoction of boiled plant and roots swabbed on genitals vs. venereal disease. Ovambo, meat of cattle dead from anthrax boiled with root, then considered edible without danger of infection. Kwanyama, powdered roasted leaves strewn on open wounds, especially in syphilis and gonorrhoea. Latex poisonous. [zzzsl]

Gongreos filipes **(Kerr) Rodda, Liede & Meve {Marsdenieae}**
Reported as *Marsdenia longipes*.

China: 百靈草 "bai ling cao" (= hundred spirit grass). [zz141]

China, plant vs. fractures and bleeding from injury. Roots vs. bronchitis, asthma. [zz141]

Gongronema angolense see ***Gongronemopsis angolensis***

Gongronema latifolium see ***Gongronemopsis latifolia***

Gongronema napalense **(Wall.) Decne. {Marsdenieae}**
China: 纤冠藤 "qian guan teng" (= fibre crown vine). [zz141]
India, Meghalaya: "Krah-skun". [zzzxk]

China, decoction of all parts vs. leucorrhoea, blennorrhoea and traumatic injury. Inner bark fibres for ropes, sacks and paper. [zz141] Laos, Champasak Province: entire plant with "Kok mak kham" (tamarind?) wood boiled in water until reduced to a quarter of the volume, taken orally for 7-15 days vs. polio. Pork is contraindicated while being treated. [zzzxj] India, Meghalaya. Leaf vs. boils and ringworm. [zzzxk] Meghalaya, Jaintia. Leaf paste vs. boils and itches. [zzzxl]

Gongronemopsis angolensis **(N.E.Br.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve {Marsdenieae}**
Reported as *Gongronema angolense*. Also *Marsdenia angolensis.*

Rwanda, Bugesera District, thick, fleshy roots eaten by children. [zz48, zz118]

Gongronemopsis cavalieri **(H.Lév.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Reported as *Marsdenia cavaleriei.*

China: 灵药牛奶菜 "ling yao niu nai cai" [zz141] (= Spirit Medicine Cow Milk Vegetable, see ***Marsdenia sinensis***).

China, Yunnan and Guangxi, bark as folk remedy vs. pneumonia and tumours. [zz141]

Gongronemopsis latifolia **(Benth.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Often reported as *Gongronema latifolium*, also *Marsdenia latifolia.*

Senegal, Serer: "hasoub". [zz59]
Sierra Leone: "tawabeimbe". [zzzkp]
"buli-yeyakŏi",
"nyiya-yeyakŏi",
Mende: "tawa-bembe",
"yoniba-gbŏle" (the leaves). [zz59]
Gold Coast (now Ghana), Ashanti: "abŏrode-abŏrode",
"kurutu". [zz59]
Twi: "nsurogya" = "does not fear fire". [zzzbr]

Nigeria, Southeast: "Utazi",
Southwest: "Arokeke". [zzzgl]
Hausa: "Madunmaro",
Igbo: "Utazi",
Yoruba: "Arokeke". [rrrfk]

Nigeria, South West, cultivated for leaves as vegetable. [zz28] Africa, widely used as a leafy vegetable and as a spice for sauces, soups and salads. Tastes bitter-sweet. [zzzux]

Sierra Leone, stems boiled with cut, sun-dried *Dryopteris striata* roots (Dryopteridaceae), *Scleria barteri* leaves (Cyperaceae), then mixed with *Palisota hirsuta* leaves (Commelinaceae) and *Xylopia aethiopica* seeds (Annonaceae), decoction orally to induce foetal movement in pregnancy. [zzzkp] Sierra Leone, stems vs. stomach pains [zzzbr], pounded leafy stems, decoction or cold infusion with lime juice vs. colic and worm-associated intestinal symptoms. Stems as chewsticks. [zz59]

Gold Coast (now Ghana), fruit boiled and put in soup as laxative. Leaves rubbed on joints of small children to help them walk. Moslems use it medicinally as purge during Ramadan. [zz59]

Nigeria, Kano State. Leaf used to reduce blood sugar in diabetes. Not used much, the most frequent being ***Anisopus mannii*** and ***Leptadenia lancifolia***. [rrrfk] Nigeria, vitally important in medicine, used vs. liver disease. diabetes mellitus, high blood pressure, loss of appetite, dysentery, stomach pains, worm infections, cough and malarial fever. [zzzgl] Nigeria, South West. Used vs. stomachache. [zz28]

West Africa, humans use the stems as a purge vs. colic, stomach pains and the symptoms of gut parasites. [zzzet] Africa, many medicinal uses, half of which are on a page not available on the free version on the internet, so I won't list them here. [zzzux]

Guinea Bissau, chimpanzees occasionally eat the very bitter bark. It is thought this might be for medicinal reasons. [zzzet]

***Gongronemopsis tenacissima* (Roxb.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Usually reported as *Marsdenia tenacissima*.

India: "Murva". [rrrfx]
"Jiti", [zzzci][zz237][rrrfx][rrrga]
"chiti", [zzzci][rrrga]
"Siti", [rrrga]
"babal",
"jak",
"tongus". [zzzci]
"Tomgus",
"Rajmahal Hemp". [zz237]
"Rajmahal-creeper",
"maruabel". [rrrfx]
Bihar: "Moron arak". [rrrga]
Madhya Pradesh, Chitrakoot: "Chanahur". [rrrgc]
Odisha, Kanika: "Chunhar". [rrrgd]
Odisha, Paudi Bhuyan people, Odiya: "Adhiri". [rrrgb]

India, Sikkim: "Bahumi lahari",
"Sunamari",
"Kamtiongrik" [zzzac]
Sri Lanka, Sinhala: "Muruva-dul". [zzzds]
Laos: "Mak ham ling". [zzzcv]
China: 通光散 "tong guang teng", [zz141]
"tongguanteng", [zzzfz]
"tong guan san". [zzzga]
Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains: “Tongguangsan”. [fffai]
Mile, Yi people: "Citongmiluozai". [rrrfz]

Yunnan, Mile, Yi people. Flowers and tender stem stir-fried and eaten. Root and stem used as medicinal food, stir-fried with eggs and eaten vs. coughs and to provoke milk production and urine. [rrrfz]

India, Bihar. Fruits eaten. [rrrga] India, Odisha, Paudi Bhuyan: Fruit eaten. [rrrgb]

Near and Remote Oceania. Included by mistake in a spreadsheet of edible plants. [rrrch] Their source had misread the original reference, which did not identify the plant which was used as a vegetable and had it as "Marsdenia aff.tenaciosina W. & A. (and/or a Gymnema species)". The edible plant on the Solomon Islands could be a *Leichhardtia*. [rrrdy]

Root included in the *Ayurveda Pharmacopoeia of India* as "Murva". In Ayurvedic mixtures as a laxative, vs. "intermittent fever, abdominal colic ... urinary diseases, pruritus, diabetes mellitus, epilepsy, piles, typhoid, sterility, rigidity in lower limbs and skin diseases". [rrrfx]

At least 10 other species of plants are recognised as "Murva" in different parts of India. [rrrfx] These include several other plant families but some from the Apocynaceae: *Chonemorpha fragrans* (Apocynaceae, Apocynoideae, Apocyneae) in Kerala (using 25 to 50 tons of raw herb per year in commercial production [rrrfy]), ***Marsdenia roylei*** in the foothills of the Himalayas and ***Stephanotis volubilis*** in South India. [rrrfx]

India, Sikkim, root juice three times daily orally as a purgative. [zzzac] Madhya Pradesh, Chitrakoot. Tuber paste applied vs. joint pain. Root juice vs. jaundice, twice a day for seven days. [rrrgc] Odisha, Kanika. Root powder in water vs. postnatal complaints. [rrrgd] Sri Lanka, leaves vs. flatulence. [zzzds]

China, stem or entire plant vs. tumours or cancer. [zzzas] China vs. asthma, cancer, trachitis, tonsillitis, pharyngitis, cystitis, pneumonia. [zzzga] China, Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains - Root digestive, reduces inflammation, used vs. rheumatism, laryngopharyngitis. [fffai] Yunnan, traditional medicine. Industrially-produced "Xiao'aiping" extract injected in clinics vs. cancers of oesophagus, stomach, lung and liver since the 1990s. [zzzfz]

India, Rajmahal, bark fibres used for bowstrings. Fibres stronger wet or dry than those of common hemp (*Cannabis*), Ceylon bowstring hemp (*Sansevieria*), or ramie (*Boehmeria*). [zzzcc] Not damaged by being kept wet. [zzzco] Considered by some to be the second best fibre in India after ramie. Exceptionally resistant to alkali with a high proportion of cellulose. [zzzci] India, bark is a source of an excellent fibre, very strong, fine, elastic and silky. Used for bowstrings, cordage and netting. [zz237]

Dried silky juice gives a rubber used for removing pencil marks. [zz237, zzzcr]

***Gongronemopsis truncata* (Jum. & H.Perrier) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Reported as *Marsdenia truncata*.

Malagasy, Sakalava: "vahitsianga". [zzzrd]

Madagascar, given as a drink to fighting bulls to increase their aggression. [zzzrd]

Gonocrypta grevei see ***Pentopetia grevei***

***Gonolobus* spp. {Asclepiadeae – Gonolobinae}**

Mexico, mainly. The most commonly used name is "talayote". [zzzeb] "Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Paul C Standley lists 39 species (as the genus *Vincetoxicum* Walter, later abolished to avoid confusion with the Old World *Vincetoxicum* Wolf) and states for the whole genus that the young fruit are eaten raw or cooked, sometimes as sweets by boiling in syrup. [zzzeb]

North America, Louisiana, Houma, "vache à lait" (milking cow), possibly a species of *Gonolobus*. Roots soaked, not boiled, drunk vs. "sick stomach". [zzzlk]

Gonolobus albus see ***Funastrum clausum***

Gonolobus australis see ***Cristobalia australis***

***Gonolobus barbatus* Kunth**
Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province: "tlayote". [rrrda]

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. Fruit edible. [rrrda]

Gonolobus biflorus see ***Chthamalia biflora***

Gonolobus caudatus see ***Talayotea caudata***

***Gonolobus chloranthus* Schltdl.**

Mexico,	Puebla,	Tepezintla, Nahuatl:	"yo:yu",
			"yo:yo" (named for the flying seeds). [rrrcn]
		Rosa Chica:	"Yoyo". [rrrcp]
		Tonalixco, Nahuatl:	"yo:yo:h". [rrrco]
		Tepezintla & Tlaquimpa, Nahuatl:	“cha:chayoh”. [rrrco]
		Sierra Nororiental:	"Chichivitos". [rrrcp]
	Hidalgo,	Acaxochitlán:	"Tlalayoxihuitl". [rrrcq]
		Acaxochitlán: fruit -	"Tlalayohtli". [rrrcq]
		Tutotepec:	"caguayote". [rrrcr]

Mexico, Puebla, Tepezintla. Edible, you can eat the part with seeds. [rrrcn] Tepezintla & Tlaquimpa. Fruit like chayote but smooth, eaten unripe. Boiled, the husk is not eaten. Tonalixco. Young and unripe, can be eaten raw and the husk can also be eaten.[rrrco] Mexico, Puebla, Sierra Nororiental, Chilapa de Vicente Guerrero & Rosa Chica. Fruit edible.[rrrcp]

Mexico, Hidalgo, Acaxochitlán. Fruit edible, boiled in water and a little tequesquite – a mixed mineral salt of sodium chloride, carbonate and sulphate, used for seasoning. Pulp and seeds are the edible parts. Eaten occasionally. Much appreciated by children. [rrrcq] Mexico, Hidalgo, Tutotepec. Fruit edible. [rrrcr]

Mexico, Hidalgo. Leaf infusion to increase milk production. [rrrep]

Gonolobus* aff. *chloranthus
Mexico, Querétaro, Bomintza: "detoo' " (= hill squash/pumpkin). [rrrep]

Mexico, Querétaro, Bomintza. Fruits eaten roasted. Not eaten as often as in previous generations. [rrrep]

***Gonolobus cthulhui* L.O.Alvarado, K.Maya M. & M.G.Chávez**

Mexico, Southeast Oaxaca. Cooked fruits eaten in soups. [rrrdg]

Gonolobus cundurango see ***Ruehssia cundurango***

***Gonolobus edulis* Hemsl.**
Costa Rica: "cuayote". [zzzdy][rrrfg]
"guayote". [zzzdx][rrret]
Mexico: "chayote silvestre". [zzzdx]
southeastern: “chupipe”. [rrrfb]
Gulf of Mexico, Nahuatl: “chihchilcuahueyohtli” (see ***Gonolobus niger***). [rrrdm]

Costa Rica. When William Botting Hemsley published the name *Gonolobus edulis* he included a note attributed to the plant collector Auguste R Endrés that the follicles were edible and the size of a swan's egg. [rrret] Endrés had collected extensively in Costa Rica but died in Colombia at the age of 36 in 1874. [rrrew]

The herbarium sheet of the type for the species is at the Herbarium at Kew Gardens but has not been digitised at the time of writing. They transcribed the note in English. [rrreu]

In the original Latin of Hemsley's description of the species:

> “*Folliculi* (fide *Endresii*) esculenti, magnitudinis ovi cygni.” [rrret]

As few of us are familiar with the size or taste of mute swan's eggs nowadays, I had a look on the Swan Life website:

> “Swans create huge eggs – they are about 12cm x 7cm in size and have a weight of around 350g.” [rrrev]

A comparison of *Gonolobus edulis* fruits from four different locations in Costa Rica gave averages of the dimensions varying from 14 to 17cm x 7.5 to 9.8cm x 7.1 to 9cm. [rrrex] Costa Rica & Mexico, green fruit eaten. [zzzdx] Costa Rica, immature fruit eaten. [zzzdy]

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. The uses of *Gonolobus edulis* and ***Gonolobus niger*** are described together. Much appreciated by the Nahuatl. Young fruit roasted and eaten as sweets (or candies to Americans). The Nahuatl of Chicontepec make it into conserves sweetened with panela, unrefined brown sugar. This is served at weddings. Fruit chopped and stewed in a soup thickened with corn masa and spiced with chili, this is called “tlapanilli”, or “huatepe” in Tének. [rrrdm]

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. Believed to be both highly nutritional and a valuable medicine. Nursing mothers eat it to increase their milk. Infants are fed it in a type of porridge to strengthen their bones. [rrrdm] Mexico, Sierra Norte de Puebla, medicinal and edible. [zzzdz]

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. The Tének of Tempoal collect latex from the fruits to make ritual atole drinks with corn and beans for offering to the earth and the corn deity Cipac. [rrrdm]

Mexico, southeastern. *Popo* is a non-alcoholic beverage, though the dough used in its preparation does undergo lacto-fermentation. Roasted and husked cocoa beans, cinnamon, the green fruits of chupipe (*Gonolobus edulis)* and soaked rice are ground together. The reulting mass is mixed with water, filtered and mixed with sugar and ice. The watery extract is "vigorously shaken with a wooden grinder to generate abundant foam". Served in cups called *jícaras* made from the shell of the fruit of the calabash tree *Crescentia cujete* (Bignoniaceae). [rrrfb] For *popo*, see also ***Gonolobus niger***.

Gonolobus erianthus **Decne.**
Mexican names given for *Vincetoxicum erianthum*. Also reported as *Gonolobus macranthus*.

Guatemala: "Mishs". [rrrez]
Mexico: "Talayote".
"flor del muerto" (= flower of death). [zzzeb]
Guerrero: "Uyacachi", [rrrfd]
"Paconlolote" (perhaps a misreading of pancololote?). [rrrfd]
Oaxaca: "cachayumbo". [zzzeb]

Guatemala. Notes on a herbarium specimen from 1923 stated “cooked as vegetable”. The sheet states *Lachnostoma lasiostemma*, which would now be *Gonolobus lasiostemma*, the United States National Museum Herbarium has it as *Gonolobus erianthus*. [rrrez]
Mexico, Guerrero. Fruit as food - reported as both *Gonolobus erianthus* and *Gonolobus macranthus*. [rrrfd]

Mexico. In a 2026 article, Mark Fishbein stated that this species has "fruit eaten cooked", citing notes on unspecified herbarium specimens. [rrrch]

Guatemala. Used vs. influenza. [rrrez]

***Gonolobus fraternus* Schltdl.**

Mexico, Sierra Norte de Puebla, Spanish: "yoyo", "primaveritas". [rrrdl]
Puebla, Sierra Nororiental, Totutla: "Yoyo". [rrrdn]
San Luis Potosi: "Yoyo". [rrrep]
Sierra Norte de Puebla, Nahuatl: "Cuauchayot" (= chayote of the hill),
Totonaco: "u'ii", "oyo popa". [rrrdl]
Sierra Nororiental de Puebla, San Miguel Tzinacapan: "po:poto". [rrrdo]
San Luis Potosi: “u’ij”, "oyo popa”. [rrrep] "talayote”. [rrrep]
Guerrero: “yao naxa mbao”. [rrrep]
Oaxaca: “cajete”. [rrrep]
Veracruz: “chumpipe”. [rrrep]

"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Sierra Norte de Puebla. Everybody eats the fruit in savouries or dessert. The fruit is cleaned, the husk and seeds removed and boiled with brown or white sugar. Eaten as soon as it cools or kept as a conserve. [rrrdl]

Mexico, Puebla, Sierra Nororiental, Totutla. Boiled fruit eaten. [rrrdn] Mexico, Sierra Nororiental de Puebla, San Miguel Tzinacapan. Husk of fruit discarded, the rest boiled with sugar and water and eaten. [rrrdo]

Mexico, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Puebla & Veracruz. Leaf and fruit eaten boiled or as a conserve. San Luis Potosi. Enjoyed roasted and seasoned with sugar. [rrrep]

Belize, near the borders with Guatemala and Mexico. Bath of decoction of stem and leaves vs. sleeplessness in adults and fevers in children. [rrrdp]

***Gonolobus* aff. *fraternus* - not identified accurately to species.**

Mexico, Chiapas, Suclumpá:
“Kuruch”. Reported as *Gonolobus* aff. *fraternus.* [rrrdj]
Frontera Corozal:
"Kuruch", "Condúa". Reported as *Gonolobus tetragonus*. [rrrdg]

Mexico, Chiapas, Suclumpá. Found in family vegetable garden, used for food. [rrrdj] This is clearly the original source for a later report that has “*Gonolobus fraternus*” in family vegetable gardens in SE Mexico. [rrrdk]

Mexico, Chiapas, Frontera Corozal. Tender, unripe fruit eaten roasted, boiled or in dessert. Seeds edible roasted or boiled. Reported as *Gonolobus tetragonus. Gonolobus tetragonus* is only found in SE Brazil, so this report from Mexico is clearly a misidentification. [rrrdg]

I found three species in herbarium specimens from the area of Frontera Corozal on the border between Chiapas state and Guatemala, two of those have flanged fruit like those in the report photo – *Gonolobus fraternus* Schltdl. and *Gonolobus leianthus* Donn.Sm. [rrrdh]

Gonolobus gonocarpos see ***Gonolobus suberosus***

***Gonolobus grandiflorus* (Cav.) Schult.**
Botanists seem to have thought a lot of *Gonolobus* species have big flowers. Not to be confused with *Gonolobus grandiflorus* Lindl. for which see ***Gonolobus chloranthus*** nor *Gonolobus grandiflorus* Benth. for which see ***Gonolobus erianthus***.

Mexico, Oaxaca: "cachito"
Cuicatec: "chivi yuco". [rrrep]

Mexico, Oaxaca. Fruit eaten roasted. [rrrep]

Gonolobus guianensis see ***Chloropetalum denticulatum***

Gonolobus grenadensis see ***Chloropetalum denticulatum***

Gonolobus hirsutus Michx see ***Odontostephana carolinensis***
Gonolobus hirsutus Pursh see ***Odontostephana obliqua***

Gonolobus hirtus (L.) Schult. see ***Odontostephana carolinensis***

Gonolobus hispidus ***see Cristobalia hispida***

***Gonolobus imladrisanthus* Pío-León, R.M.Gut. & L.O.Alvarado**

Mexico, Durango, serranía de Santiago Bayacora. Fruit boiled in water, the seeds discarded and the soft part boiled with milk and sugar, served alone or as dessert. [rrrdc]

Gonolobus leianthus see ***Gonolobus* aff. *fraterna***

Gonolobus macranthus see ***Gonolobus erianthus***

Gonolobus macrophyllus Chapm. see ***Gonolobus suberosus***
Gonolobus macrophyllus Decne. see ***Odontostephana obliqua***
Gonolobus macrophyllus Elliott see ***Odontostephana obliqua***
Gonolobus macrophyllus Michx. see ***Gonolobus suberosus***

Gonolobus megalocarpus see ***Gonolobus pancololote***

***Gonolobus naturalistae* M.G.Chávez, Pío-León & L.O.Alvarado**

Mexico, Northeast. Fruit edible. [rrreo]

Gonolobus niger **(Cav.) Schult.**

Mexico, Sierra Norte de Puebla: "papullo",
"cuauchayot". [zzzdz]
Puebla, Sierra Nororiental: "Kowchayoh",
"Kowtahchayoh". [rrrde]
San Luis Potosi, Rayon, Las Guapas, Xi'iuy: "gajú".[zzzjd]
Spanish: "Talayote". [zzzjd]
Veracruz: "chupipe",
"chupipi". [rrrdd]
Gulf of Mexico province: "cahuayote",
"chompipe",
"chupipe",
"chupipi",
"papullo",
"talayote",
"uyk". [rrrda]
Tének: "Oy",
Nahuatl: "cuahueyohtli",
Spanish: "Cahuayote". [rrrdm]

"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Veracruz. Tender shoots or the tender parts of woody shoots or the fruits or the roots added to the popular sweetened cocoa drink called "popo". This plant or "axquiote" (*Smilax dominguensis*) or both used to make the drink frothy. Flowers without stalks boiled with a little salt, drained. Added to a savoury corn porridge (molito de masa) with tomato, spiced with chili and garlic. Described as delicious. The fruit is also candied to make sweets. [rrrdd] Veracruz, Otatiltlán region. Latex used to produce foam on chocolate drinks. [rrrfc]

Mexico, San Luis Potosi, Rayon, Las Guapas, Xi'iuy, food plant found in home gardens and forests. [zzzjd] Mexico, Puebla, Sierra Nororiental, Cuauhtémoc. Eaten boiled like chayote (*Sicyos edulis*, Cucurbitaceae). [rrrde]

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. The uses of ***Gonolobus edulis*** and *Gonolobus niger* are described together. Much appreciated by the Nahuatl. Young fruit roasted and eaten as sweets (or candies to Americans). The Nahuatl of Chicontepec make it into conserves sweetened with panela, unrefined brown sugar. This is served at weddings. Fruit chopped and stewed in a soup thickened with corn masa and spiced with chili, this is called "tlapanilli", or "huatepe" in Tének. [rrrdm] Gulf of Mexico province. Roots, shoots, flowers, fruit, latex edible. [rrrda]

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. Believed to be both highly nutritional and a valuable medicine. Nursing mothers eat it to increase milk. Infants are fed it in a type of porridge to strengthen their bones. [rrrdm] Sierra Norte de Puebla, medicinal and edible. [zzzdz]

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. The Tének of Tempoal collect latex from the fruits to make ritual atole drinks with corn and beans for offering to the earth and the corn deity Cipac. [rrrdm]

Gonolobus pancololote (Sessé & Moc.) L.O.Alvarado
Reported as *Stapelia pancololote* [zzzmg] and *Gonolobus megalocarpus*.[fffaz]

Mexico: "Pancololote". [zzzmf] See ***Asclepias oenotheroides, Ruehssia zimapanica***. Temascaltepec, Luvianos: “Cuaguayote”. [fffax]

Between 1788 and 1804 Martin Sessé and José Mariano Mociño collected plants that would later be described in the *Flora Mexicana* [zzzme] and *Plantae Novae Hispaniae* [zzzmf]. They observed:

> "Economy. Young follicles for preserves commonly Pancololote is greatly prized by the natives."

In the original Latin:

> *"*Œconomia. Folliculi immaturi pro conditura vulgo de Pancololote magno habentur pretio apud Indigenas.*"* [zzzmf]

Mexico, Temascaltepec, Luvianos. On a herbarium specimen collected on Boxing Day 1934, later named *Gonolobus megalocarpus*, George Hinton noted “Uses fruit edible” in type, then added “very young” in pencil. [fffax] Mexico, in their 2021 paper coining the new name *Gonolobus pancololote* and reducing *Gonolobus megalocarpus* to a synonym, the authors Alvarado-Cárdenas *et al* mentioned that the fruits of these plants are consumed locally in Mexico.[fffaz]

***Gonolobus pectinatus* Brandegee**
Mexico, Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley: "Talayote". [zzzkf]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley, edible. [zzzkf]

Gonolobus pedunculatus see ***Chthamalia pedunculata***

***Gonolobus rostratus* (Vahl) Schult.**
Reported as *Exolobus patens*. Also known as *Gonolobus stenolobus*.

Argentina, Chaco, Vilela: "soonók",
"elekepái soonók". [zzzpb]

Argentina, Chaco, Vilela. Tender young fruit eaten, boiled or roasted. [zzzpb] South America, Gran Chaco. Fruit eaten by Eastern Toba & Vilela peoples. [fffaq]

Gonolobus salvinii see ***Gonolobus taylorianus***

Gonolobus setosus see ***Fischeria stellata***

Gonolobus rotatus see ***Gonolobus rostratus***

***Gonolobus stenanthus* (Standl.) Woodson**
Herbarium sheet recorded as *Vincetoxicum stenanthum*.

Honduras, Atlántida Department: "Cuchamper". [rrrfa]

Honduras, Atlántida Department. Paul C Standley noted on the herbarium sheet collected in late 1927 or early 1928 that this species has “Fruit used in dulces”. Dulces are what we might call sweets or desserts in English. [rrrfa]

Gonolobus stenolobus see ***Gonolobus rostratus***

***Gonolobus suberosus* (L.) R.Br.**
Reported as *Gonolobus macrophyllus* Michx. Also known as *Gonolobus gonocarpos.* Not to be confused with *Gonolobus suberosus* Bertol. see ***Ibatia maritima***.

United States, "Carolina" (a very large area of North America in 1810). Juice absorbed into small clay balls which were then placed in cavities a little behind the points of arrows to act as an arrow poison. [zzzjc] See also ***Odontostephana carolinensis***.

***Gonolobus taylorianus* W.D.Stevens & Montiel**

Costa Rica:	“Cuayote”. [rrrfg]	
Central America:	“Cuchamper”,	
	“Chinchayote”,	
	“Polla”,	
El Salvador:	“Siguamper”,	
	Zacatecoluca:	"cuchamper cultivado". [rrrfh]

In the description of this species in 2002, the authors WD Stevens and Olga Martha Montiel stated:

> “The unusual morphological variability is perhaps related to the fact that the species is often cultivated for its fruits. The developing fruits are eaten as a vegetable, raw when young, cooked when more mature, or boiled with sugar at any stage, and are available in markets in Guatemala and El Salvador during the fruiting season (Standley & Williams, 1969 [recorded in error as the much rarer *Gonolobus salvinii*]). ... ...It seems to be primarily cultivated as a dooryard plant, ...” [rrrff]

Costa Rica, Greater Metropolitan area. Fruit can be eaten raw out of hand. Fruit as a *picadillo* (minced food) – chopped, sugar and water added. Fig leaves and syrup optional. Fruit as a *tapa dulce* (sweet snack) – shell removed, insides boiled, seeds removed and cooked with honey. Seeds eaten raw. [rrrfg]

El Salvador, La Paz department, Zacatecoluca. Cultivated for its fruits. The plant was said by a local, Don Rudy Gamero, to have been brought originally from the wild near Soyapango in the neighbouring department of San Salvador. The two places are 37km (23 miles) apart as the crow flies. [rrrfh]

Costa Rica, Greater Metropolitan area. Latex vs. warts. Boiled fruit to prevent or treat prostate problems. [rrrfg]

"*Gonolobus tetragonus* (Vell.) Decne." see ***Gonolobus* aff. *fraterna***

Gonolobus trachyanthus see ***Talayotea trachyantha***

***Gonolobus uniflorus* Kunth**
Mexico, Michoacan state: "Chiquipos". [rrrdu]

Mexico, Michoacan state. Herbarium specimen from 1977 states "flowers and fruit eaten". [rrrdu]

Mexico. In a 2026 article, Mark Fishbein listed this species as having edible fruit, citing notes on unspecified herbarium specimens. [rrrch]

Gonostemon gettliffei see ***Stapelia gettliffei***

Graphistemma pictum see ***Cynanchum graphistemmatoides***

***Gymnema acuminatum* Wall. {Marsdenieae}**
Malaysia, Peninsular: "serapat kuning",
"sebueh api". [zz177]
Thailand, Prachin Buri: "thong thaa khruea". [zzzny]

Malay Peninsula, poultice of leaves vs. small sores. [zz177]

***Gymnema decaisneanum* Wight**
Reported as *Gymnema hirsutum* Wight & Arn not to be confused with *Gymnema hirsutum* Wall. for which see ***Vincetoxicum hirsutum*** (Wall.) Kuntze.

India, Nilgiri Mountains: "Nore". [zzzmm]

India, Nilgiri Mountains, decoction of leaves vs. fevers. [zzzmm]

Eastern India, Santals, used vs. fever, dropsy, anasarca, colic, syphilis (and chancre), sores, poor lactation, dysuria, orchitis, epidydimitis, hydrocele, infant atrophy, constipation, stomach complaints, dysentery, tuberculosis, dry cough, bronchitis, neuralgia, pleurisy, pneumonia, male impotency and spider-lick (*Paedurus* dermatitis, skin and eye irritation caused by *Paedurus* rove beetles). [zzzlf]

***Gymnema elegans* Wight & Arn.**
India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Venkurinja". [zzztf]

India, Tamil Nadu, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, leaf juice applied vs. eye irritation. [zzztf]

Gymnema hirsutum Wall. see ***Vincetoxicum hirsutum* (Wall.) Kuntze**
Gymnema hirsutum Wight & Arn. see ***Gymnema decaisneanum* Wight**

***Gymnema inodorum* (Lour.) Decne.**
Also reported as *Marsdenia tingens*, *Gymnema tingens* and *Gymnema syringifolium.*

China: 廣東匙羹藤 "guang dong chi geng teng" [zz141] (= Guandong ***Gymnema sylvestre***).
Laos: "Dok bonenk". [zzzcv]
Indonesia: "sayor pepe". [zzzny]
Moluccas: "uta mata". [zzzny]
Philippines, Iloko: "kalalaki-ti-du-gep". [zzzny]
Cambodia "voë toahs". [zzzny]
Thailand, Chiang Mai: "phak chiang daa". [zzzny]
Vietnam: "lo[ax] ti". [zzzny]

Moluccas, young leaves and shoots eaten raw or cooked.

Northern Thailand, young aerial parts commonly used as a vegetable. [zzzny]

Indonesia, Moluccas, roots finely ground with water vs. pain and chest-tightness caused by poisonous seafood. Reported as *Gymnema syringifolium*.

Philippines, root decoction or powder as emetic. Reported as *Gymnema tingens*. [zz177]

China, all parts vs. infantile paralysis and pulmonary tuberculosis. [zz141] China, leaves considered effective vs. diabetes mellitus, rheumatoid arthritis and gout. [zzzny]

Burma, Roxburgh reported that a Dr Buchanan was told that a green dye was produced from the leaves of this plant. Roxburgh believed that the Burmese had omitted to inform Dr Buchanan that treatment with a yellow dye was necessary, assuming that this plant produced a blue dye - though his own experiments were unsuccessful. Reported as *Asclepias tingens*. [zzzcc] Costantin states the plant gives a green dye. [zzzcv]

***Gymnema lactiferum* (L.) R.Br. ex Schult.**
Sri Lanka: Sinhala and Tamil: "Kurinnan", [zzzds]
"kiriaghuna" [zzzcu] (= ***Stephanotis volubilis*** [zzzds]).

Sri Lanka, leaves eaten boiled. [zzzcu]

Sri Lanka. In 1835, abundant latex used as a replacement for milk. [zzzbd] In 1895, Henry Trimen considered this an erroneous observation that gave rise to fables of the "Cow-plant". Leaves believed to increase milk production and as a vegetable after birth. [zzzds]

India, Tamil Nadu, Alagar Hills, Madurai district, leaves and latex vs. septic wounds, diluted fresh leaf paste orally vs. constipation and intestinal ulcers, leaf with pepper orally vs. intestinal worms. [zzzbc]

Gymnema stenophyllum see ***Sarcolobus stenophyllus***

***Gymnema sylvestre* (Retz.) R.Br. ex Sm.**
Also reported as *Marsdenia sylvestris, Gymnema alterniflorum* and *Gymnema affine*.

India, Hindi: "Gurmar" (= sugar destroyer). [zz245][rrrga]
Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal: "Podapatri". [rrrbb]
Tamil Nadu, Kancheepuram District: "Sirukurinchan". [zzzfv]
Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Sirukurinjan". [zzztf]
Dindigul district, Thoppampatti: "Shirukurinja". [zzzse]
South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills: "Sakkaraikodi". [zzzuo]
Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purandhar: "Bedki". [zzzns]
border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts: "Bedcki". [zzznt]
NW Ahmednagar: "Bedki". [rrrat]
"Kavali",
"Kalikoderi",
"Vakundi",
"Pitani". [zzzpk]
Namibia, Ndonga, Ovamboland: "omdhingila". [zzzsl]
Mbukushu, Kavango: "ruku". [zzzsl]
China: 匙羹藤 "chi geng teng". [zz141]

India, Bihar. Leaf edible. See some reports of toxicity below. [rrrga]

When chewed abolishes the taste of sugar and all sweet substances temporarily. [zz196, zz245, zzzcr] Also deadens bitterness but not sour, astringent and pungent tastes. [zz241] India, Ayurvedic medicine, leaves used to treat "madhu meha" (= honey urine, a type of diabetes), indigestion, cough, constipation, malaria. Traditionally also regarded as cardiotonic, diuretic, stimulant and uterine tonic. Leaf powder 2-4g daily. Leaves topically vs. wounds and applied mixed with oil vs. swollen internal organs. Leaf given to cows to increase milk production. [zz245]

Leaf paste externally vs. cattle neck wound. [zzzbi] Leaf purgative. [zz241] India, plant to induce abortion. [zzzny] Fruit bitter, vs. indigestion, leprosy, diabetes, bronchitis, worms, ulcers and poisoning. [zz245] Whole plant vs. dysentery. [zz245] Powdered root vs. snakebite. [zz245, zzzfv, zzzpk]

India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, powdered dried leaves taken orally every morning vs. diabetes. [zzztf] Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills, leaf decoction, mixed with milk, taken vs. diabetes. [zzzuo] India, Tamil Nadu, Dindigul district, Thoppampatti, whole plant, powder or decoction orally as stomachic and purgative, vs. diabetes and furunculosis, also stimulates heart and circulatory system and activates the uterus. [zzzse] India, Tamil Nadu, leaf paste applied vs. nervous disorders. [zz107] Sri Lanka, stems used in medicine. [zzzds]

India, Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purandhar, leaf powder internally vs. diabetes. [zzzns] India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, leaves used vs. diabetes. [zzznt] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. 2-3 leaves eaten twice a day vs. diabetes. [rrrat]

India, Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Leaf powder as cardiac stimulant and vs. asthma, snake bite. Root vs. diabetes. [rrrbb]

China, all parts used vs. rheumatism, blood vessel inflammation, piles and snake bite. [zz141] China, all parts (but especially root) used in the same ways as the previous entry but including use vs. gout, oedema and fever. [zzzny] Taiwan, plant is an antidote for snake poison. [zz177]

Angola, plant used vs. cancer. [zzzsl] Bechuanaland (now Botswana). Powdered root in ointment vs. boils. [zzzbr, zz241] West Africa, India and Australia, root and leaf vs. snakebite. [zz241] East Africa, pounded, cooked roots vs. epilepsy and snakebite. [zzzny]

Excess can be toxic. [zz241] Leaf poisonous, death by respiratory failure. Hypoglycaemic effect of short duration. [zzzsl]

Gymnema syringifolium see ***Gymnema inodorum***

Gymnema tingens see ***Gymnema inodorum***

H

Hemidesmus indicus **(L.) R. Br. ex Schult. {Periplocoideae}**

India, Sanskrit: "Sariva"

The name Sariva is also used of *Ichnocarpus frutescens* (Apocynaceae, Apocyneae), said to have identical properties, often used together as "sarivadvaya" (= two sarivas). [zzzen]

Sanskrit: "Anantamul" (= endless root). [zz80]
Hindi: "Anantamul",
"Dudhli".
"Ununta-mool". [zzzcc]
Gujarati: "Sariva",
"Upalasari". [zz80]
Manipuri: "Anantamul". [zz80]
Marathi: "Anant vel". [zz80]
Maharashtra: "Anantmul",
"Upalsari". [zzzpk]
Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil: "Anantvel" [zzzot]
Western Ghats, Purandhar: "Anantmul". [zzzns]
Ahmednagar & Nashik districts: "Anantmul". [zzznt]
NW Ahmednagar: "Anantmul". [rrrat]
Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal: "Sugandhipala". [rrrbb]
Malayalam: "Narunenti". [zz80]
"Naru-nundi",
"Nárú-níndi". [zzzpp]
Tamil: "Nannari",
"Sugandipala", [zz80]
Tamil Nadu, Kanyakumari, Kani tribes: "narunatti",
"nannaari". [rrran]
Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Nannari". [zzztf]
Salem District, Vanavasi Hill: "Nannari". [zzzqw]
Palliyars: "Nannari". [zzzqr]
South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills: "Nannari". [zzzuo]
Dindigul district, Thoppampatti: "Nannari". [zzzse]
Odisha, Paudi Bhuyan: "Raigadi",
"Subudi". [rrrgb]
West Bengal, Bengali: "Anantamul". [zzzxm]
Telugu: "Suganda pala". [zz80]
"Palla-soucandee". [zzzcc]
Kannada: "Sugankha-palada-gidda",
"Sogade". [zz80]
Oriya: "onotomulo". [zz80]
Konkani: "Upara-Sali". [zzzpp]
Sinhala: "Iramusu", [zzzds]
Iran/Pakistan, Balochi/Brahui: "Wal". [zzzcp]
English: "Indian Sarsaparilla", but not related to true Sarsaparilla, *Smilax*. [zz80]

India, Odisha, Paudi Bhuyan, Fruit eaten. [rrrgb]

India, roots as a popular flavouring for soft drinks and bakery goods. [zz212] India, Tamil Nadu, Western Ghats, Madurai, Valaiyan tribe, roots edible. [zzzts] Maharashtra, leaves chewed are said to be refreshing. [zzzpk] Bombay, leaves chewed to purify the blood and are very refreshing. [zz196]

The tenth volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1690. One of the plants pictured and described was called Naru-nundi or Nárú-níndi in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the plant as *Hemidesmus indicus*. [zzzpr] The author described the unusual scent of the roots:

> "Root... dryish smell in some way sharp, sweet & spicy."

In the original Latin:

> "Radix ... siccior odoris aliquo modo acris, suavis & aromatici."

The author then described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "The root, chopped with garlic and duck meat cooked together in coconut oil, is an excellent anti-haemorrhoidal decoction. Root powder is employed against fever; when mixed with sugar, it resists quartan fever [a type of malaria]; when taken with wine, or applied as a bath, it cures empyema* and internal abscesses. The same root placed on the part injured by a poisonous snake, is recommended for action in averting illness: when pounded with water used as a drink against diarrhea. The bulbous root drunk with milky coconut juice removes haemorrhoids. Out of the same bark, bruised small with milk and fresh butter, liniment is prepared, to be applied externally against venereal bubos; The same bulb resists haemorrhoids, if powdered with oil, reduced to the form of a drink-offering/libation and consumed."

* An accummulation of pus in a bodily cavity.

In the original Latin:

> "*Radix* concisa cum *Allio* ac *carne Anatina* in oleo *Nucis Indicæ conco[c?]ta* decoctum antihæmorrhoidale præstat. *Radicis* pulvis per se exhibitus, antifebrilis est ; cum *zaccharo* mixtus, quartanis adversatur ; cum *vino* sumtus, vel pro balneo adhibitus empyemati & internis abscessibus medetur. Eadem *radix* læsæ à colubro virulento parti imposita, alexicaca energeia commendatur : cum aqua trita potionem exhibet contra diarrhæam. *Bulbus* radicis cum lacteo *Nucis Indicæ* succo haustus , hæmorrhoides tollit. Ex ejusdem *cortice*, *lacte* & recenti butyro levigato, linimentum præparatur, adversus bubones venereos, extrinsece applicandum ; hæmorrhoidibus resistit idem bulbus, si pulverisatus cum oleo, & in formam libaminis redactus comedatur." [zzzpp]

Anabolic used vs. venereal diseases, herpes, skin diseases, arthritis, rheumatism, gout, epilepsy, insanity, chronic nervous diseases, abdominal distention, intestinal gas, debility, impotence and turbid urine. [zz80] Coromandel Coast, dried, powdered roots fried in butter vs. thrush in children. Used in a mix with other plants vs. venereal complaints. Reported as *Asclepias pseudosarsa*. [zzzcc] India, Chhattisgarh, Bastar district, root worn on neck as amulet vs. fever. [zzzjy] India, Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Whole plant vs. asthma and diabetes. [rrrbb]

India, Tamil Nadu, Kanyakumari, Kani tribes. Root paste applied vs. swellings and rheumatic pains. [rrran] Tamil Nadu, leaf paste with neem oil vs. eczema. [zz131] India, Tamil Nadu, Kancheepuram District, juice of whole plant taken as refrigerant. [zzzfv] Tamil Nadu, fresh leaves eaten vs. stomach ache. Root orally vs. heavy menstrual flow. [zz107] India, Tamil Nadu, Salem District, Vanavasi Hill, root as stimulant for blood circulation. [zzzqw] India, Tamil Nadu, Dindigul district, Thoppampatti, root, leaf and stem decoction orally as stomachic and purgative, vs. syphilis, leucorrhoea, diarrhea and abscess, as blood purifier, galactagogue, febrifuge and alterative. [zzzse] Root decoction vs. stomach ulcer. [zz63] Root vs. gravel, ophthalmia, syphilis and other genito-urinary tract illnesses. [zz177] India, West Bengal, Purba Medinipur district, root powder vs. digestive and sexual disorders. [zzzxm] India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, root juice orally every morning vs. ulcers. [zzztf]

India, Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purandhar, root powder internally vs. excessive body heat. [zzzns] India, Maharashtra, border of Ahmednagar and Nashik districts, aromatic roots used as tonic. [zzznt] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Ground root extract internally vs. snakebite. [rrrat] Maharashtra, Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil, half-cup of decoction of root given early morning for 2-3 days vs. jaundice. [zzzot]

India. Widely used medicinal as blood purifier, diuretic, antirheumatic, antidiarrhoeal and vs. viper envenomation. [zz212]

Essential oil from the root reported to be 80% 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (which I am now calling mondillin as it easier to type, though I have only just coined the word so you won't find it elsewhere) [zz212] or 91% mondillin with 4.5% (-)-ledol and over 40 minor aromatic compounds. [zzzgj] For more species with mondillin, see ***Mondia whitei***.

3.27% hydrocarbon/rubber by fresh weight. [zzzar]

An official herb in the 1898 British Pharmacopoeia as Hemidesmi Radix. Syrupus Hemidesmi made with 100g bruised *Hemidesmus* root, 700g refined sugar and 500ml distilled water. Boiling water added to the root in a covered vessel and infused for four hours. Strained and allowed to stand until clear. Sugar dissolved with gentle heat. Dose: ½ - 1 fluid drachm (1.85 - 3.7ml) [zz178]

Introduced to England as a medicine in 1831. Alterative, tonic and diuretic. Used vs. rheumatism, scrofula, skin diseases and thrush. Boiling drives off the active principle. Said to have cured venereal disease, including syphilis. "Native doctors" used it vs. kidney complaints and sore mouths in children. Powdered root dose 30 grains (= 1.94 grammes). [zz82]

Indochina?, used vs. kidney stones, eye problems, etc. Rarely used in Europe vs. skin diseases, syphilis, etc. [zzzst]

Used vs. snake bite (see also ***Vincetoxicum bungei***). A compound was isolated from the root, 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzoic acid, which significantly antagonised Russell's viper venom-induced lethal haemorrhagic, coagulant and anticoagulant activity in experimental rodents. [zz11a] India, southern Tamil Nadu, root decoction orally for 7 days vs. snakebite. [zzzbh] India, Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills, root decoction internally vs. snake bite. [zzzuo]

Fibres strong and fine, used as a textile. [zzzst]

Taste test: The dried root was bought by mail order from Herbalveda [zz100] as an Ayurvedic herb called "Anantmool - Hemidesmus indicus root". Very strong smell just on opening the packaging but managing a similar trick to the Parma violet, being soft, sweet and delicate but also penetrating and persistent. It has a dusty, candy quality like Parma violet but without the distinctive violet smell. It also has similarities to vanilla. The tea made from 2 grammes of shredded root in one cup has an intense flavour similar to the smell but with liquorice/sarsaparilla notes. I like it but I can imagine some people would hate it. The smell stays with you for quite a while after smelling it let alone drinking it. There is a strong possibility that this root was from ***Decalepis hamiltonii*** which is often used as a replacement in the trade. [me]

Taste test: Tea bags sold as Iramusu from Sri Lanka purchased from an ebay vendor who sent me the wrong thing with the label Iramusu the next time I ordered it. [fffaf] About 1½ grammes of root powder in each bag. As *Decalepis hamiltonii* does not occur on Sri Lanka, I believe this was more likely to be the true *Hemidesmus indicus*. The powder smelled even better than the Herbalveda one but cost a lot more to buy and was half the weight promised. One tea bag emptied into a half litre jug and filled with water at 90°C. After brewing for 15 minutes, the tea had taken on a colour more brightly orange-brown than that from Herbalveda. The tea had a much sweeter taste with the bright clear flavour that I associate with mondillin. Very pleasant and seemed to act as a pick-me-up. [me, 2025]

I could not find the leaves in the UK. I bought some leafy stalks from Sri Lanka on ebay that looked right. Tea made from just the leaves was bland. No distinct flavour, just a general tea-like taste. No effects or after-effects. I tried shredding 10g of the leafy stalks in a liquidiser with ¾ litre of water, then heating it until it just came to a simmer in a stainless steel pan. The liquid distilled on the inside of the pan lid as it steeped had a definite mondillin (2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde) taste. It seems the stem bark and root bark both have mondillin. This strong tea had a much more complex and satisfying flavour than tea from just the leaves, with definite notes of soft tannins, mondillin and the sweetness of sarsaparilla. [me, 2025 & 2026]

Hemipogon sprucei **E.Fourn. {Asclepiadeae - Metastelmatinae}**
Brazil, Mato Grosso do Sul, Kaiowá: "Kurupi Kay Mir"
(= "Ferida brava" in Portuguese, "angry wound"). [zzzuq]

Mato Grosso do Sul, Kaiowá, root used vs. uterine inflammation and everything. [zzzuq]

Heterostemma alatum **Wight & Arn. {Ceropegieae - Heterostemminae}**
China, Hainan Island: "zē fōng guō" [zz250]

Himalayan India, leaves are antiseptic and roots as emetic. [zz52] China, Hainan Island, toasted leaf massage vs. injury. [zz250]

Heterostemma brownii **Hayata**
China: 台湾醉魂藤 "tai wan zui hun teng" (= Taiwan drunk soul vine). [zz141]

The aerial parts are used in Taiwanese folk medicine to treat tumours [zz143, zz227] and for expelling dampness (a humour used in Chinese diagnosis for classifying disease) and as a detoxifying agent. [zz143] China, roots vs. malaria. [zz141]

***Heterostemma cuspidatum* Decne.**
Philippines, Tagalog: "Biniguasan",
"Buyok-boyok",
"San Bartolome". [zz219]

Philippines, leaves made into an ointment for tropical ulcers [zz219], the remedy is effective and antiseptic. [zz177]

***Heterostemma decanense* (Talb.) Swarupan. & Mangaly**
India, Eastern Ghats: "Pedda Joola Pala".

Stem bark juice is used for stomach ache and gas troubles. [zz186, zzzsy]

***Heterostemma maculatum* (Kerr) Rodda**
Thailand: "Ma-Khoa-Kwai" [zzzsm]

Thailand, immature fruit edible when pickled in salt. [zzzsm]

***Heterostemma oblongifolium* Costantin**
China: 催乳藤 "cui ru teng" (= urge milk vine). [zz141]

China, decoction of plant to provoke milk production in women. [zz141]

***Heterostemma tanjorense* Wight & Arn.**
India, Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore district, Pillur Beat: "Palakeerai". [zzzun]

India, Goa, herbalists use root decoction vs. some systemic infections. [zzzlw] Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore district, Karamadai range, Pillur Beat, leaf paste or infusion as tonic and vs. viral and bacterial diseases, fever and skin diseases. [zzzun]

Holostemma ada-kodien see ***Cynanchum annularium***

Holostemma annularis see ***Cynanchum annularium***

Holostemma brunonianum see ***Cynanchum annularium***

Holostemma rheedei see ***Cynanchum annularium***

***Hoodia* spp. {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**

Hoodias that were once spiny-stemmed *Trichocaulons* (now subgenus Trichocaulon to some) are known collectively as "ngaap" or "ghaap" from the Khoisan "qkhobab". These species are less slimy, so preferred to the rest of the *Hoodia* genus ("khoba", "goba"). Some names reflect this aversion - "baviaan's ghaap" or "bobbejaanghaap" (baboon ghaap), "slang ghaap" (snake ghaap), "jakkalghaap" (jackal ghaap) and "wild ghaap". The ex-*Trichocaulon Hoodias* are often called "true ghaap" or "soetghaap" (sweet ghaap).

Most of these are edible fresh and raw and have been preserved in sugar by early colonists. Various species are sliced, dried and made into a tincture as a stomachic. [zz24a, zz95, zz241] All species eaten. [zzzow]

It appears that all *Trichocaulon* species are called "ghaap". [zz150] The young pods of all species are liked for their sweetness. The species of *Trichocaulons* then called *Lavrania* (mostly now called *Larryleachia*) are not eaten as they are very bitter. [zz119]

***Hoodia alstonii* (N.E.Br.) Plowes**
Formerly *Trichocaulon alstonii*.

Namibia, South Africa. Edible. [zz119] Southern Africa, succulent stem edible. [zzznx]

***Hoodia currorii* (Hook.) Decne.**
Previously *Scytanthus currorii* and *Scytanthus burkei*.

Southern Africa: "Ghaap" [zz119].
Botswana: "Sekopane",
"Seboka". [zz93]
Nama: "!khowab",
"!khobab". [zzzgt, zzzsl]

Namibia, Angola, Botswana, Zimbabwe. Stones are used to remove the spines then the stem is cut into strips and eaten. The stem has a "peculiar pervasively spreading sweet taste which is remarkably persistent" and makes a tasty preserve. The liquorice-like aftertaste improves the flavour of tobacco smoke. Quenches thirst and hunger. Young pods much sought after for their sweetness. Better after a recent rain, sometimes soaked in water before use. [zz119]

Namibia, Wilhelmstal, Damara, outer layer (with thorns) of little stem scraped off. A piece the length of a pencil cut off and one third eaten morning, noon and night vs, diabetes. [zzzsl] Nama, eaten vs. high blood pressure, colds, indigestion, stomach pains. Applied vs. eye pains. Refreshing drink made by adding stem to sugar water. [zzzgt] Southern Africa, stem as snack, appetite suppressant and non-alcoholic beverage. [zzznw]

Botswana, used for purification after death. Branch tips placed around cattle corrals, along cattle trails and around people to prevent further deaths. Mashed with other plants and water, people wash with it, the water sprinkled on cattle to prevent death, straying and increases the herd and health even in drought. Used in rituals to find the cause of death. With other plants to remove bad luck. [zz93]

***Hoodia flava* (N.E.Br.) Plowes**
This species was formerly *Trichocaulon flavum*.

Afrikaans: "geelghaap" (= yellow ghaap),
"soetghaap" (= sweet ghaap). [zz93]

Namibia, South Africa. Edible. [zz119] Eaten fresh to suppress appetite and thirst. [zz93] Southern Africa, stem as snack, appetite suppressant and sweet preserve. [zzznw]

***Hoodia gordonii* (Masson) Sweet ex Decne.**
This species was never a *Trichocaulon*.

Afrikaans: "Bitterghaap".

Considered worthless as food or medication south of the Orange River. Peeled juicy, young shoots eaten raw or cooked in the Kalahari. Could not be used in the dry season. Flower honey used vs. cancer. [zz95] Southern Africa, stem as snack, appetite suppressant and for moisture. [zzznw]

Prior to publication of the patent as a slimming supplement there was only one reference to this effect in the literature from 1932 but that was referring to ***Hoodia pilifera***. The appetite-reducing effect was discovered by accident while the thirst quenching effect of other species of Hoodia was being studied in mice. [zz95]

Used in popular diet pills, now extensively traded commercially. Perhaps sold in greater quantities than actually exist.

***Hoodia officinalis* (N.E.Br.) Plowes**
Formerly *Trichocaulon officinale* and *Trichocaulon rusticum.*

Namibia, South Africa. Edible. [zz119] Southern Africa, succulent stem edible. [zzznx] Southern Africa, stem as snack and sweet preserve. [zzznw]

In Latin "officina" means "workshop, factory or laboratory". [zz142] A few years before 1895, dried slices of the plant were imported to America as a remedy for piles. [zz40] Used for pulmonary tuberculosis. [zz95, zz241]

***Hoodia pedicellata* (Schinz) Plowes**
Reported as *Trichocaulon pedicellatum.*

Namib desert, Nama: "|goab". [zzzgt]

Namib desert, Nama, used as ***Hoodia currori*** but very bitter. [zzzgt] Southern Africa, stem as snack and non-alcoholic beverage. [zzznw]

***Hoodia pilifera* (L.f.) Plowes**
Reported as *Trichocaulon piliferum* and *Stapelia pilifera.*

S. Africa,	Karoo:	"ghaap". [zz247]
		The real "ghaap". [zz150]
	Khoi-San:	"Guaap". [zz152]

Edible, pickled in South Africa, reported in 1796 by Francis Masson as "Guaap", *Stapelia pilifera*. [zz152] Edible [zz119]. Described as "insipid, yet cool and watery taste". [zz95]

Brandy infusion against piles. Bitter, stomachic. [zz241]

Stem eaten as thirst-quencher. [zz241] Subsitute for food and water when both are scarce.

> "The sweet sap reminds one of liquorice and, when on one occasion thirst compelled me to follow the example of my Hottentot guide, it saved further suffering and removed the pangs of hunger so efficiently that I could not eat anything for a day after having reached the camp." [zz150]

Karoo, ssp. *pilifera*, young stems eaten to suppress hunger and thirst. Old stems are bitter and poisonous. [zz247] Southern Africa, stem for moisture, as snack, appetite and thirst suppressant and sweet preserve. [zzznw]

Poisonous to stock animals. [zz42]

***Hoodia pilifera* susp. *pillansii* (N.E. Br.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Trichocaulon pillansii* and *Hoodia grandis*.

Edible and popular. Tincture for pulmonary tuberculosis. [zz241] Southern Africa, stem as snack and sweet preserve. [zzznw]

***Hoya* spp. {Marsdenieae}**

East/South East Asia. Latex used against dangerous venomous fish stings. [zz177]

Samoa: "fuesā" Leaf poisonous. Used vs. rib pains. Samoa: "fuefailolo". Ointment vs. pain. [zz234]

Philippines, leaves as dressing for wounds. Philippines, latex, juice of leaves good for wound. Philippines, leaves vs. spleenomegaly. Philippines, Sap with sap of dayang dayang boiled as an arrow poison. [zz188]

Solomon Islands, fruit planted in banana patches to give an exceptionally good crop. [zz188] Possibly the *Hoya guppyi* mentioned as "a good omen foretelling an abundant crop" in the Solomon Islands? [zz249]

Moluccas, young leaves eaten before much latex has accumulated. [zz249]

"*Sussuela esculenta mas*" of Rumphius, Ambon name "Sajoer makoöe", has been identified as a species of *Hoya*. [zzzhh] See discussion under "***Sussuela esculenta*".**

Hoya africana see ***Stephanotis abyssinica***

***Hoya alexicaca* (Jacq.) Moon**
India, Maharashtra: "Dudvel". [zzzpk]

Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Leaf paste in water applied vs. skin diseases. [rrrat] Maharashtra, plant emetic and used vs. poisoning. Yields useful fibre. [zzzpk]

The specific name of this plant was given in 1789, as *Asclepias alexicaca*, because of the reported anti-poison effects of *Nansjera-patsja*. [zzzpl] The Greek word ἀλεξίκακος (alexikakos) means "averting evil or illness".

I am not sure whether this report was influenced by the identification of this plant as the *Nansjera-patsja* of the *Hortus Malabarici* published in 1689. [zzzpm] More recent investigators have identified *Nansjera-patsja as* ***Vincetoxicum indicum***, which does have emetic effects and is known to have been used to rid the body of poison. [zzzpr] The picture in the *Hortus Malabarici* does look much more like the *Vincetoxicum.*

Hoya ariadna see ***Hoya sussuela***

Hoya australis **R. Br. ex J. Traill**
Tongan: "Laumatolu",
"Matolu", [zz244]
"Suni",
"Sugi",
"Sugi Vao",
"Sugi Tai" [zz242].
Papua New Guinea, Milne Bay: "kalavagala". [zzzny]

Tonga, leaf infusion internally or externally vs. skin inflammations, infections and rashes. [zz244] Leaf poisonous, used for treating wounds in many countries. Leaves to treat filariasis, fever, sore throat, pneumonia (with bark), and tuaula uli (Tongan disease). [zz242] Tonga, extract of leaves, leaf infusion internally and externally vs. inflammation. Pounded leaves dipped in water to make lotion vs. rashes. [zz249]

Fiji, vs. cough in children. [zz188] Fiji, vs. haemorrhoids, wounds/traumatic injuries, decoction of the leaves as tonic in pulmonary tuberculosis, vs. convulsions, infusion or decoction with other leaves in various mixtures to strengthen mothers after childbirth, vs. related body aches and headaches, post-partum depression and postnatal discharge. Liquid from pressed leaves vs. inflammation of the testicles. [zz249]

Samoa, leaves mixed with coconut cream applied vs. pyoderma sores. Leaf infusion for various internal pains and inflammation. Samoa and Futuna, infusion of leaves mixed with another leaf vs. stomach and intestinal ailments. Plant lethal to cattle and sheep, contains digitalis-like cardiac glycosides. New Guinea, leaf juice applied externally vs. burns.[zz249]

Hoya carnosa **(L. f.) R. Br.**
Chinese: 球兰 "qiú lán" (= ball orchid). [zz27, zz141]

Vietnam. Leaf poultice vs. pyoderma. [zz249] Leaf used to hasten maturation of anthrax and furuncles. [zz177] China, vs. encephalitis, pneumonia and orchitis. [zz141]

Zachos [zz249] reported the use of a tincture of the fresh leaves in 86% alcohol vs. diabetes. It should be understood that this tincture was produced by Staufen-Pharma of Göppingen, makers of homoeopathic medicines diluted to nothingness. There might have been some of the spirit of the leaves left in the spirits but nothing of the plant material. [me]

Massively popular houseplant across the world for the last 200 years. [me] Fraudulently given by Chinese informants to a European plant-collector (who passed specimens to Linnæus) as the plant that produces the dye gamboge, which is actually from species of *Garcinia* of the family Clusiaceae. [zzzby]

***Hoya coriacea* Blume**

Malaya. Leaves for asthma and cough. [zz177]

Hoya corona-ariadnes see ***Hoya sussuela***

***Hoya coronaria* Blume**
Malay: "takop". [zz194]
"Akar sětěbal". [zzzhh]
Sunda: "Akar ki kandĕl lalaki". [zzzhh]

Java, latex with *Capsicum* leaves and salt for digestion. [zz27, zzzhh, zz249] Bitter, emetic. Small doses used to stimulate slow digestion. [zz177] West Malaysia, Perak, crushed leaf applied to cure cuts and wounds. [zz194] Hayne [zzzhh] identified it as the *Corona Ariadnes* of Rumphius. [zzzms] Schultz agreed, stated the thick, sticky, non-pungent latex was used vs. gonorrhoea. [rrrhg] But see the similar ***Hoya rumphii***.

***Hoya cumingiana* Decne.**
Philippines, Bontoc: "paluki". [zzzki]

Philippines, Bontoc. Used with similar species in " 'apey" rice-planting ceremony. [zzzki]

***Hoya diptera* Seem.**

Fiji, leaves and bark vs. amoebic dysentery. [zz249]

***Hoya diversifolia* Blume**
Malaysia, Peninsular: "akar sesudu bukit",
"akar serapat",
"akar chaping kera". [zzzny]
Vietnam: "hoa sao kh[as]cl[as]". [zzzny]

Malaya. Used in hot baths for rheumatism. [zz177] Peninsular Malaysia & Vietnam. Boiled leaf infusion in bath vs. rheumatism. [zzzny] See discussion under "***Sussuela esculenta***".

***Hoya fungii* Merr.**
China: 護耳草 "hu er cao" (= ear protection grass). [zz141, zz231]

China, all parts vs. fractures, traumatic injuries/wounds. [zz141, zz249]

***Hoya globulosa* Hook.f. ex Dean**
Also known as *Hoya villosa*.

China, Pinyin: 毛球蘭 "mao qiu lan". [zz141, zz231]

China, leaves vs. wounds/traumatic injuries. [zz141, zz249]

Hoya griffithii **Hook. f.**
India, Mizoram: “Hnahchhah”. [fffas]
China: 荷秋藤 "he qiu teng". [zz141]

India, Mizoram – leaf sap applied to burned skin. [fffas]

China, stems and leaves vs. traumatic injury, fractures, swellings and coughs. [zz141]

Hoya imbricata **Callery ex Decne.**
Philippines: "pawi-pawikan" (= resembling a turtle shell). [fffac]
Bisaya: "paui-pauikan". [zzzny]

Philippines. Maturative for anthrax and furuncles, like ***Hoya carnosa***. Charred leaves mixed with coconut oil, applied to old wounds or varicose ulcers to promote rapid healing. [zz177]

Hoya imperialis **Lindl.**
Western Malaysia, Riau Province, Rantau Langsat Village: "Akar cirik murai" [zzzdt]

Western Malaysia, Riau Province, Rantau Langsat Village, root to help childbirth. [zzzdt]

Hoya kerrii **Craib**
China: 凹葉球蘭 "ao ye qiu lan". [zz141]

China, leaves vs. swellings and pyoderma. [zz141] Thailand, leaves with ***Dischidia major*** (see separate entry) leaves and *Vanilla aphylla* stems vs. liver dysfunction. Thailand, with whole plants of ***Dischidia acuminata*** vs. enlarged liver and cirrhosis. Leaves with stems of *Coelogyne trinervis* and *Dischidia acuminata* leaves vs. liver dysfunction. [zzzny]

Hoya lacunosa **Blume**
China: 裂瓣球蘭 "lie ban qiu lan". [zz141]

China, all parts decoction vs. insect bites, to draw out pus and reduce swellings. [zz141]

Hoya lanceolata **Wall. ex D.Don**
India, East Assam, Golaghat District: “Chagoli jibha”,
“Bon Bokul” [fffaa]
Nepal, Lamjung District, Dura: "Thirjo". [rrrgl]

India, East Assam, Golaghat District. Leaves and latex - paste with latex applied on boils, muscular pain. [fffaa] Nepal, Lamjung District. Whole plant decoction vs. back pain, fracture, sprain. [rrrgl]

Hoya latifolia **G. Don**
Java: "kapalan".[zzzhh]

Malay Peninsula/Java. Very bitter latex as diuretic and against ascites. [zzzhh]

***Hoya lyi* H. Lév.**
China: 香花球蘭 "xiang hua qiu lan". [zz141]

China, leaves vs. rheumatoid arthritis and traumatic injury. [zz141]

***Hoya macrophylla* Blume**
The author for [zz109] was not given in the source, so that could be either **Wight** or **Blume**, if Wight it is actually = ***Hoya latifolia.***)

Laos: "Dok pang". [zz109]

Indonesian archipelago,
Javanese: "Dawon kappal". [zzzch]
Sundanese: "Kilampahan",
"Aroij kikandel badak". [zzzch]
Malay: "Dawon pittis". [zzzch]
Bali: "Pittis pittisan". [zzzch]
Ambonese: "Walebissi". [zzzch]

Laos, used for the liver and versus wounds. [zz109] Indonesian archipelago, finely mashed leaves applied vs. fatigue pains or rheumatism in limbs. Leaves boiled in water drunk vs. gonorrhoea. Latex vs. venomous fish stings. [zzzch]

***Hoya meliflua* (Blanco) Merr.**
Reported as *Stapelia meliflua.*

Philippines, Tagalog: “Balicbalic”. [fffac]

Philippines. In 1837, decoction used for women in labour but the author Manuel Blanco did not know in what manner. In the original Spanish: “Se usa su cocimiento para las mugeres paridas; pero no se de que modo.” [fffac] In 2019, Aurigue attributed to Blanco “and others” that the plant was used to cause “stoppage of birth” and was used by locals as an abortifacient but I can't find a copy of the 1993 notated edition to check. [fffab, fffad]

***Hoya multiflora* Blume**
Java: "kapalan". [zzzny]

Java, latex as diuretic. Leaf poultice vs. rheumatism. [zzzny]

Malaysia, pounded leaves, embrocation vs. rheumatism. India, juice as diuretic. [zz249] POWO has the native range including Assam and Bangladesh at its furthest west, as well as Java and Malaya and many other countries. [zzzrh]

***Hoya neocaledonica* Schltr.**

New Caledonia, Loyalty & Grand Terre Islands. Emetic. Leaf juice to fortify children, one leaf for babies. Used vs. tuberculosis and thrush. Leaf applied vs. abscess. Young stems expectorant. [zzzew]

Hoya orbiculata see ***Hoya diversifolia***

Hoya ovalifolia **Wight & Arn.**
India, Malayalam: "Máreta-jnáli". [zzzpq]
Sri Lanka: "Gonika". [zz109]

The eleventh volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1692. One of the plants pictured and described was called *Máreta-jnáli* in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the plant as *Hoya ovalifolia*, though there were no flowers shown or described. [zzzpr] The author described the medicinal uses of the plant: "Juice heals cholera".

In the original Latin: "*Succus* choleræ medetur." [zzzpq]

Sri Lanka, used vs. fractures. [zz109]

Hoya pandurata **Tsiang**
China: 琴葉球蘭 "qin ye qiu lan". [zz141]

China, leaves externally [zz141] vs. cuts, traumatic injuries/wounds and pyoderma. [zz249]

Hoya parasitica see ***Hoya verticillata***

Hoya pendula **Wight & Arn.**
India, Malayalam: "nausjera-patsja". [zz66]

Emetic, to cure poisoning. Many uses in medicinal mixtures with other plants. [zz66]

Hoya pottsii **Traill**
Pinyin Chinese: "wiàng kóng". [zz250]
"dāi tōng jiāo". [zz250]
"wèn biāng". [zz250]
"zǎ lī". [zz250]
"san mai qiu lan". [zz141] Perhaps 三脈球蘭 (= three-vein *Hoya*), 鐵草鞋 as given there seems to be "tiě cǎoxié" (= iron straw shoes).

New Caledonia, Loyalty Islands, Maré: "Waikur",
"Waikuri". [zzzeq]

Hainan Island: Invigorant, vs. injury, gynæcological diseases, rheumatoid arthritis, digestive disorders. [zz250]

China. Leaves vs. fractures, swellings and for draining pus, promoting new growth. [zz141]

New Caledonia, Loyalty Islands, Maré, frequently used as medicine for babies. Juice from the chewed or pressed leaves is given from birth and the first weeks to purge it of the food eaten during pregnancy. Also given to older children and as part of a fortifying mixture of plants. Good vs. 'flu. [zzzeq]

***Hoya pubicalyx* Merr.**

Philippines. "Hunting ritual". [zz188]

***Hoya rumphii* Blume**
Malay, Ambon: "Daoen pitis". [zzzhh]
Moluccas: "daun pitis". [zzzny]

Java, latex used against dangerous venomous fish stings. Decoction of leaves is cooling in gonorrhoea. [zzzhh] See also the similar-looking ***Hoya coronaria***.

***Hoya sussuela* Merr.**
See discussion under **"*Sussuela esculenta*"** for the possible origin of the name. Sometimes reported as *Hoya ariadna* and *Hoya corona-ariadnes*.

Thick latex thought useful against venomous fish stings, in a similar manner to ***Dischidia nummularia*** and ***Hoya rumphii.*** [zzzhh] Malaysia, latex vs. venomous stings (fish? insect?). [zz249]

Indonesia, mixed with *Clematis* (Ranunculaceae) vs. pyoderma. [zz249]

***Hoya upoluensis* Rein.**
Samoa: "fue magoni". [zz234]

Leaf poisonous but used to treat swelling. Bark medicinal. [zz234]

***Hoya verticillata* (Vahl) G.Don**
Reported as *Hoya parasitica*.

Bangladesh, Chittagong Hill Tract, Rakhain tribe: "Palu-lobboi". [zz87]

Bangladesh, leaf and root used medicinally vs. bronchitis, diabetes, urinary tract disorders, frequent or infrequent urination, kidney disorders, bleeding, rheumatic pain, paralysis. Leaf juice, one teaspoonfull of is taken thrice daily, vs. urinary tract disorders, frequent or infrequent urination, and diabetes. Also vs. bronchitis and to maintain normal funtion in kidneys. Powdered meristems to help blood clotting in wounds and vs. rheumatic pain and paralysis. [zz87] Aerial part used vs. rheumatism. [zz193] India, leaf paste applied vs. wounds. Leaves pounded in coconut oil, tied to foot vs. elephantiasis. [zz249]

Hoya villosa see ***Hoya globulosa***

Hoya viridiflora see ***Stephanotis volubilis***

***Hoya vitiensis* Turrill**

Fiji. For garlands, considered poisonous. [zz188]

Hoya volubilis see ***Stephanotis volubilis***

***Hoya wallichii* (Wight) C.M.Burton**
Reported as *Physostelma wallichii.*

Singapore, Malay: "Akar Siak". [zzzmo]

Henry Nicholas Ridley was called Mad Ridley because of his promotion of extensive rubber production on land cleared of jungle in British Malaya, which eventually caused much ecological destruction, homelessness and tragic deaths in the Great Flood of 1926. In 1897, Mad Ridley published a list of Malay plant names. For Siak (Akar) he stated:

> *"Physostelma Wallichii* Wight. (*Asclepiadeae*). A slender climber with white flowers. The roots are sweetly-scented and are used in native medicine." [zzzmo]

In his Flora of Singapore published in 1900, Mad Ridley elaborated on the smell: "Roots scented like new mown hay". [fffak]

***Hoya wightii* Hook. f.**

India, emetic, to cure poisoning. Useful fibre. [zz249]

***Huernia* spp. {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**

Protection vs. witchcraft. [zz95]

Southwest Saudi Arabia, high mountains, "aff. *Boleana*", used widely in traditional medicine, especially vs. diabetes. [zzzmx]

See also ***Orbea sprengeri,*** which had been reported as "*Huernia* spp." before it was properly identified.

***Huernia concinna* N.E. Br**

Ethiopia,	South Welo (Wollo), Amharic:	"Yelam Tut". [zzzmw]
	Zegie Peninsula:	"Yelam Tute". [zz224]

Ethiopia, South Welo (Wollo), Cheffa Area, whole plant pounded and cream externally vs. infected wounds. [zzzmw] Ethiopia, crushed leaves (?) applied as a dressing to reduce swellings. [zz202, zz224] Also used in the same manner vs. "kusil" an unexplained ailment. [zz224]

***Huernia hystrix* (Hook.f.) N.E. Br.**
Zululand: "iLilo". [zzzmz]

Zululand, market traders reported high demand despite scarcity. Used as a sprinkling charm. [zzzmz]

Huernia hystrix* (Hook.f.) N.E. Br. var. *hystrix
Swaziland: "lozililo",
"nomaliliza".

Stem is medicinal for sexual stimulation. [zz144] Stem infusion as sexual stimulant. Stem and root extract showed anti-inflammatory effects. [zz202]

South Africa, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

***Huernia keniensis* R.E. Fr.**

Kenya, sap to dry wounds. [zz202]

***Huernia lodarensis* Lavranos**
Yemen, central Abyan, Lawdar & Modyah districts: "Dharoo-Imkalbah". [zzznu]

Yemen, central Abyan governate. Stem juice smeared on affected part vs. chronic wounds and injuries. [zzznu]

***Huernia longituba* N.E.Br.**

Southern Africa, stem as snack. [zzznw]

***Huernia marnieriana* Lavranos**
Yemen, central Abyan, Mukeiras & Lawdar districts: "Dharoo-Imkalbah". [zzznu]

Yemen, central Abyan governate. Stem juice smeared on vs. wounds and injuries. [zzznu]

***Huernia namaquensis* Pillans**

Southern Africa, succulent stem edible. [zzznx]

***Huernia pendula* E.A. Bruce**

South Africa, East Cape, Bolo Reserve. Above-ground parts vs. chest complaints. [zz241]

***Huernia stapelioides* Schltr.**
Swaziland: "tililo lomncane".

Medicinal. [zz144]

***Huernia zebrina* N.E.Br.**
Swaziland: "tililo lomncane".

Medicinal. [zz144]

I

Ibatia boliviensis **(Schltr.) Morillo {Asclepiadeae - Gonolobinae}**
Reported as *Matelea boliviensis.*

Bolivian Andes, Apillampa. Used as medicine and for "material". [zzzqj]

Ibatia elliptica **(Rusby) Morillo**

Bolivian Andes, Apillampa. Used as medicine. [zzzqj]

Ibatia maritima **(Jacq.) Decne.**
Also called *Matelea maritima* and *Gonolobus suberosus* Bertol., not to be confused with ***Gonolobus suberosus*** **(L.) R.Br.**

Montserrat: "man tree". [zzzkb]

Montserrat. Leaf tea vs. intestinal distress. [zzzkb]

Ichnocarpus frutescens is not an asclepiad but see ***Hemidesmus indicus***

Ischnolepis graminifolia **(Costantin & Gallaud) Klack. {Periplocoideae}**
Reported as *Ischnolepis tuberosa*.

Madagascar, Antanosy: “sarotry”. [fffam]

Madagascar, Antanosy. Reported in 2012 by informant Modeste Fidèle that a decoction of leaves was used vs. maladies in humans. [fffam]

The plant is common in Madagascar and the tuber can reach 100 kilogrammes (220 pounds) in weight. I was surprised to find no mention of the use of the tuber, even if just as a doorstop.

J

Janakia arayalpathra see ***Decalepis arayalpathra***

Jasminanthes mucronata **(Blanco) W.D. Stevens & P.T. Li {Marsdenieae}**
Reported as *Stephanotis mucronata* and *Stephanotis lutchuensis* v. *japonica.*

China: 黑鰻藤 "hei man teng" (= black eel vine). [zz141]
Japanese: "Shitaki-sō. [zzzra]

China, folk medicine vs. rheumatoid arthritis. [zzzbu] Dried roots vs. rheumatoid arthritis and rheumatic aches. [zzzgb]

Japan: Found to contain anti-sweet principles similar in activity to those of ***Gymnema sylvestre***. The five glycosides were named sitakisosides I to V. [zzzgv]

Jobinia formosa **(N.E.Br.) Liede & Meve {Asclepiadeae - Orthosiinae}**

Peru, Huánuco. In April 1863, Richard Pearce collected this plant while travelling South America on behalf of one of the largest British commercial nurseries, run by the Veitch family. In the description on the herbarium specimen he noted:

> "used for some medical
> purpose by the natives
> flow. in valley above Huanuco" [zzzqk]

K

Kanahia carlsbergiana **D.V.Field, Friis & M.G.Gilbert {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District: "Kertassa". [zzzjb]

Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, dried leaves crushed and painted on vs. sores. [zzzjb]

Kanahia laniflora **(Forssk.) R. Br.**
Yemen, Jibla (as Djöblæ): "kanahh". [zz74]
Sudan: "abou lebben" (mother of milk).[zzzrde]
Northern Kenya, Pokot: "chepokors". [zzzwm]
Ethiopia, Northeast, Chifra district: "Leehamohcaxa". [zzzib]
Amhara Region, Minjar-Shenkora District: "Tiferndo". [zzzid]
Mecha Wereda: "arust",
"yew uha tifrena". [zzzif]

Yemen: in 1775, milky plant juice mixed with butter as an unguent vs. scabies. [zz74] Poultice from fresh leaves vs. ulcers, abscesses and swellings [zzzwi]

Uganda: latex used vs. sores. [zzzrde]

Tanzania. Root decoction with leaf sap given to children vs. symptoms of malaria. Produces a lot of latex. [zzzrde]

Northern Kenya, Pokot, domestic use, not food. [zzzwm]

North Eastern Ethiopia, Chifra district. Fresh leaf pounded and soaked in water, solution intranasally and a small amount drunk vs. tuberculosis. Fresh or dried aerial parts pounded and soaked in water, solution intranasally vs. headache and arthritis. [zzzib] Ethiopia. Afar regional state, Yalo Woreda, root sniffed vs. flu, orally vs. angina. Leaf inhaled vs. asthma. Whole plant orally and nasally vs. schizophrenia. [zzzic] Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Minjar-Shenkora District, fresh leaf latex applied vs. ringworm. [zzzie] Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Mecha Wereda, fresh leaf squeezed with water applied vs. wounds, tumours, latex taken orally. [zzzif]

North Eastern Ethiopia, Chifra district, most popular medicine for livestock, used vs. rinderpest, anthrax and “dingetegna” (= "sudden illness"). [zzzib] Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Mecha Wereda. Whole plant fresh crushed or dried powdered, mixed with butter applied vs. donkey's warts. [zzzif] In 1841, abundant latex with butter vs. scabies/mange. [rrrhg]

Amhara Region, Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Mecha Wereda, as firewood. [zzzif]

Kompitsia elastica see ***Pentopetia grevei***

***Kushengia sinensis* (Hemsl.) Liede & Z.X.Ren**
Also *Dregea sinensis* var. *sinensis, Wattakaka sinensis* var. *sinensis.* Not to be confused with ***Marsdenia sinensis*** Hemsl., though several species have been moved from *Marsdenia* to *Dregea* and vice versa. Both species are found in China and were originally named by William Hemsley.

China: "xiao mu tong". [zzzba]
苦 繩 "ku sheng". [zz141, zzzau]
Yunnan: “kǔ shéng” (= “bitter rope”),
“ku-liangcai”. [rrrch] Perhaps 苦良菜 (= bitter good vegetable).

China. Leaves, young shoots, flower buds and newly-opened flowers harvested from vines growing in field boundary hedges, tolerated and sometimes planted. The trees and shrubs of the hedges often have edible fruit, nuts or are medicinal. Commonly sold in baskets in markets across Yunnan. Frequently used around Kunming, Yunnan but not in other areas where it may be regarded as toxic. Added to boiling water before being drained (to reduce bitterness or toxicity?), stir-fried and served with garlic. China, Kunming. A local restaurant serves stir-fried heads of flower-buds with garlic. The result is slightly bitter and the flowers keep their purple colour. [rrrch]

China. All parts to induce lactation and vs. rheumatism and fractures. [zz141, zzzau] Herb vs. phlegmy asthma cough, abscesses and boils.[zzzau] Whole plant, diuretic. [zzzba]

***Kushengia sinensis* var. *corrugata* (C.K.Schneid.) Liede & Z.X.Ren**
Also *Dregea corrugata, Dregea sinensis var. corrugata*, *Wattakaka corrugata* and *Wattakaka sinensis* var. *corrugata*. Not to be confused with ***Marsdenia sinensis***.

China: 贯筋藤 "guan jin teng" [zz141, zzzau] (= "connect tendons vine?).

China. Stems and leaves vs. jaundice, gonorrhoea, oedema and pyodermas. [zz141] Herb vs. joint pain, loss of milk flow, abscesses, sores and boils, injuries, fractures and strangury (blocked and painful urination). [zzzau]

L

Lachnostoma lasiostemma see ***Gonolobus erianthus***

Leichhardtia australis **R.Br. {Marsdenieae}**
Previously *Marsdenia australis* or *Marsdenia leichhardtiana*.

Australia, Western Australia, Wongutha: "Karlkurla". [rrrib]
Northern Territory, Jingulu: "Ngimirrikimi",
Mudburra: "Kilibi",
Ngarinyman/Mudburra: "Kirlipi". [zzziw]
Warlpiri: "Yuparli". [zzzcn]
Central Australia, Alyawara: "alkwarrirra",
"alangkwa",
fruit: "alkwarrirra",
flowers: "ilkwantja",
leaves: "pwalka",
roots: "atniytja". [zzzkw]
Arrernte: "Merne Alangkwe". [zzzcn]
Eastern Arreernte: "altyeye". [zzzuw]
South Australia, Fraser Range: "Kurdullu". [rrrgh]
Yura (Adnyamathanha): "Mayaka". [zzzcn]
"Austral Doubah",
"Doubah",
"Cogola". [zzzcn]
"Dooba". [zzzcm]
Queensland: "Doubah". [zzzil]
South Australia: "Howla",
English: "Silky Pear",
"Bush Banana". [rrrib] See also ***Leichhardtia viridiflora***.
New South Wales: "Native Figs". [rrrgg]

Australia, fruit, flowers, leaves and root all eaten. Fruit is sweetest when the size of the little finger and melts in the mouth. The most prized of bush fruit. The flowers are sweet and "bloody delicious". Used medicinally. [zzzcn] Important and extremely popular aboriginal food. Most parts eaten. Fresh, sweet flowers and very young fruit are a delicacy. Mature fruit roasted. Young leaves eaten raw, older leaves steamed. Cultivation trials have been conducted in Australia. [zzzuw] Western Australia, Wongutha. "A much favoured food by First Nation Peoples." Flowers, very young fruit eaten raw. Older fruits roasted. Young leaves eaten raw, older leaves steamed. Only the stems, fine roots not eaten. [rrrib]

Queensland in 1913, pods eaten. [zzzil] All of Mainland Australia. In 1899, the milky unripe fruits eaten when the size of a large acorn. Best roasted. [rrrgg] Australia, Northern Territory, young fruit lightly roasted on hot ashes and eaten. Can be confused with the poisonous fruit of *Vincetoxicum cinerascens.* [zzziw]

Australia, root and fruit roasted and eaten. The seeds are particularly liked. The latex from the fruit also has a pleasant taste. Cattle and sheep seek out the plant for forage. [zzzcm] Central Australia, Alyawara. Long, thin roots to 20cm eaten raw or roasted. Outer flesh separated from the fibrous core by pounding or scraping with rocks. Fruits eaten, up to 4cm. Leaf and flower eaten raw. Available in any season with suitable rainfall. [zzzkw]

Western Australia. Seeds as contraceptive. [rrrib]

Fluffy white seed plumes used in Aboriginal ceremonies. [rrrib] Australian male spotted bower birds use the fruit for decorating their bowers. [zzzcl]

I have grown the plant indoors for 3½ years. Leaves edible raw, not stringy and with a nice taste. Harvested one plant after 2 years 9 months under lights in cramped cabinets. Lots of tubers, some deflated and rotting. I chose the best, freshest, palest, plumpest tubers and scrubbed them. 120 grammes, the thickest tuber about 2cm. Quite fragile when washing, some snapped. Roasted in halogen oven at 170°C for 40 minutes. Thin woody core (~ 1 to 2mm thick) separated easily after cooking. Slightly bitter. Texture starchy and thick, like a roast parsnip. The thinnest parts had a delighful crunch. Slight sweetness in water drunk afterward? [me]

***Leichhardtia flavescens* (A.Cunn.) P.I.Forst.**
Reported as *Marsdenia flavescens*.

Australia, western, from Victoria to Queensland: "Native Potatoes". [rrrgg]

Australia, western, from Victoria to Queensland. Tuberous roots edible after preparation. [rrrgg] Australia, Queensland, roots edible. [zzzil]

***Leichhardtia velutina* (R.Br.) P.I.Forst.**
Reported as *Marsdenia velutina*.

Australia, Northern Territory, stems used as an emergency supply of string or rope. [zzziw]

***Leichhardtia viridiflora* (R.Br.) P.I.Forst.**

Western Australia,	Kimberley Region:	Kija people:	"kulipil",
			"ngujal". [zzzbv]
		Jura people:	"gulibi",
			"bindi". [zzzbv]
	Kamibray (Ngambri/Kamberri?):		"Goobei". [rrrgg]
Australia:	"bush banana", see also ***Leichhardtia australis***. [zzzbv]		
	"Bush Potato" [zzzcm]		
	New South Wales: "Native Potato". [rrrgg]		

Western Australia, Kimberley Region, Kija and Jura, young, green fruit eaten. Older fruit softened by cooking in hot ashes and sand for a few minutes. Kija, skin of older fruit and stems sucked and chewed for energy and helps mouth stay moist when thirsty. [zzzbv] New South Wales, Cumberland & Camden counties. In 1899, reported that it had been much used by native Australians against thirst: "Each plant has several succulent tubers resembling potatoes, but more watery, and having a sweetish taste..." [rrrgg]

Leptadenia albida **(Schinz) Bruyns {Ceropegieae – Leptadeniinae}**
Reported as *Orthanthera albida* Schinz.

Namib desert, Nama: "|arib". [zzzgt]

Namib desert, Nama, young fruits eaten entire mainly by children. Only inner peel eaten in older fruit. Root in beer to improve flavour. [zzzgt] Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

Stem chewed to clean teeth. Stem or root, decoction or chewed vs. stomach pains. Ground seed decoction vs. kidney and back diseases. [zzzgt]

Leptadenia arborea **(Forssk.) Schweinf.**
Banjani: "Dali". [zz74]
Yemen, central Abyan, Mukeiras & Lawdar districts: "Loweh". [zzznu]
Sudan, "Sha'aloab",
"Al Louis",
"Al Sha'abiet". [zz15a]
South Kordofan, Algoz: "hadana",
"shaloub shailingo". [zzzof]

Petrus Forsskål reported [zz74] in 1775 that, according to my uneducated translation [zz140, me]:

> "Banjani call it Dali & only there the fruit are eaten cooked; Arabs spit it out."

Original Latin supplementary notes on "*Cynanchum arboreum"*:

> "Banjani vocant Dali & illi soli fructum edunt coctum; Arabes respuunt."

Sudan, stem and root are used in treating gonorrhoea, swellings, and nose disease. Poultice of branches and leaves are used to treat snakebites. [zz15a] Sudan, South Kordofan, Algoz, root maceration vs. acid reflux, diarrhoea and jaundice. Root poultice vs. swellings. [zzzof]

Yemen, central Abyan governate. Bark paste applied vs. wounds and pimples. [zzznu]

Leptadenia bojeriana see ***Leptadenia madagascariensis***

Leptadenia ephedriformis see ***Periploca visciformis***

Leptadenia forskalii see ***Leptadenia arborea***

Leptadenia gracilis see ***Leptadenia pyrotechnica***

Leptadenia hastata see ***Leptadenia lancifolia***

Leptadenia imberbis see ***Leptadenia reticulata***

Leptadenia jacquemontiana see ***Leptadenia pyrotechnica***

***Leptadenia jasminiflora* (Decne.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Orthanthera jasminiflora.*

Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "n!a'àrìh" [zzzsq]
!Kung: "n!a'i". [zzzsl]
Kwanyama, Ovamboland: "ekoka". [zzzsl]
Mbukushu, Kavango: "kamungambe". [zzzsl]
Afrikaans: "sandmelktou" (= sand milk rope). [zzzsl]
Botswana: "mushishane",
"nqe' di",
"serapologwane". [zz89]

Namibia, Khoisan, whole young pods eaten raw, older ones peeled first. Can be boiled or baked in glowing embers. [zzzsl] Botswana, nectar sucked from sweet-smelling flowers. [zz90] Fruit, "lekatane jaserapologwane", 10-13cm long, edible, especially the skin. [zz89] Southern Africa, leaf, fruit as vegetable, fruit and seed as snack. [zzznw]

Namibia, Kwanyama, leaf decoction used vs. earache. [zzzsl]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, burnt roots believed by some to deter lions, others believe they attract dangerous animals. [zzzsq]

***Leptadenia lancifolia* (Schumach. & Thonn.) Decne.**
Often given as *Leptadenia hastata*.

Benin: Bariba, Boko & Dendi: "Suadobargaru". [zzzob]
Bariba: "Souadobagarou",
"Souadobarga",
"Souadoberékenou",
"Fouadobaga",
"Karaouikpérou". [zzzob]
Boko: "Sowadobaragaru". [zzzob]
Dendi: "Leptanda". [zzzob]
Nigeria: Fulani: "yahi",
"ya'diyahi",
"ya'diawal",
"sobotoro". [zz59]
Hausa: "ya'diya", [zz59]
"Yaadiya".[rrrfk]
Igbo: "Isanaje". [rrrfk]
Yoruba: "iran-aji igbó", [zz59]
"Iran-aji". [rrrfk]
Kano State: "Yadiya" [zzzxe, zzzxf],
"tears". [zzzxe]
Burkina Faso, Baskoure: "lelongo", [zz165]
"lelengo". [zzzke]
Seno & Nayala Provinces: "Toun",
"Tatola". [zzzwa]

Niger Republic, Hausa: "yadya". [zzzxh]
Mali, Maninka: "sarahate". [zz67]
Cameroon, Arabic: "Hagalhadjar". [zzzxd]
Southern Senegal, Adeane: Wolof: "Mboom". [zzzxg]
Mandingo: "Duto". [zzzxg]
Kenya, Pokot: "chesakisyon". [zz156]
Marakwet: "Kipchegin". [zzztl]
Somali: "moroh",
Turkana: "ekamong'o". [zz156]
Ethiopia, Kara and Kwego: "surmudo", [zz225]
Kusume: "hayla". [zz31]
Konso: "khayla". [zzzfo]
Konsogna: "Kayilla",
"Hayilla",
"Cheila". [zzzna]
Hamer-Bena: "Metsa". [zzzna]
Somali: "Moroh". [zzzna]

Ethiopia, leaves and young shoots boiled and eaten throughout the year as a regular vegetable. [zz225] Ethiopia, Konso and Hamar Districts, leaves eaten like cabbage even when food supplies are good. One of the most preferred vegetables but not cultivated as it is invasive and abundant. [zzzfo] In Kusume areas preferred (with *Moringa stenopetala*) over other wild edible greens. [zz31] Ethiopia, Cultivated in some areas. Young leaves cooked and eaten. Poor people eat it at all times, some only in the case of famine. Sold in markets. [zzzna]

South Ethiopia, Hamer & Konso. Tender leaf, young shoot and flower edible, harvested throughout year. Most sought-after of semi-wild edible plants in times of scarcity. [zzzqm]

Kenya, Turkana, Pokot. Leaves as a vegetable. Normally cooked with other veg like cowpea leaves. [zz156] Kenya, Marakwet. Tender leaves cooked as a healing veg. [zzztl]

Senegal. Consumed most as a vegetable in the western parts. Gathered from wild. [zz155]

Benin, central and northern regions. Leaves, young shoots and flowers eaten as a cooked vegetable and used in sauces. Collected wild all year. Widely available in the bush but seed is also deliberately sown near houses. Seldom sold. [zzzob]

Niger Republic. Leaves eaten regularly in the West Sahel. Sun-dried leaves were analysed and found to contain: 19.1% protein (with an excellent balance of amino acids), 13.8% lipid, 1.75% calcium, 1.34% potassium and 0.258% phosphorus. The leaves also contained the carotenoids lutein at 53.8μ/g and β-carotene at 50.8μ/g. [zzzxh]

Nigeria, Fulani. Women made a comestible/love charm from the buds and flowers (called "pindi") and of the fruits (called "chode"). Leaves, young shoots, flowers as food in soup, beans, etc. [zz59] Nigeria, Kano State, leaves very commonly eaten and highly valued, gathered from the wild all year round. Cooked, eaten in a salad with the leaves of *Vitex doniana* (Lamiaceae) and *Ficus thoningi* (Moraceae). [zzzxe]

Burkina Faso, leaf and fruit gathered from the wild and eaten. Tastes good. [zzzke] Burkina Faso, leaf eaten as sauce or couscous in the wet season. [zzzsp] Burkina Faso, Seno & Nayala Provinces, leaves and raw fruit eaten to suppress appetite during famine. Gathered from wild, used frequently. [zzzwa]

Southern Senegal, Adeane. Scraped root bark in water, drunk vs. snakebite. Leaves attached to the back with hawk's bones vs. kidney problems. [zzzxg] Senegal, rubbery sap (latex?) as a strong salve reputed to be highly effective for healing. Root and leaf used variously vs. rheumatism, belennorhoea, haemorrhoids, eczema and varicose veins. [zz155] Senegal, bark as anti-inflammatory and antitumour. [zz22a]

Cameroon: root sold in Kousséri market for use vs. scabies. [zzzxd]

Nigeria, Katsina State, decoction of whole plant taken orally vs. vulvo-vaginal atrophy. [zzzrx] Nigeria, Kano North senatorial district, whole plant vs. hypertension, catarrh and skin diseases. [zzzxf] In many parts of the interior of West Africa leaves and greenish sap from stems regarded as useful vs. gonorrhoea. N. Nigeria, dry leaves with *Smilax* root vs. tertiary syphilis. Included in several prescriptions vs. venereal diseases. [zz59] Nigeria, Kaduna State, Kano State & Katsina State. Whole plant. Second most used of the diabetes medicines reported in each state with ***Anisopus mannii*** the most used. [rrrfk]

Mali. Leaves with *Erythrina senegalensis* bark, orally and body bath vs. river blindness (infection with the parasitic worm *Onchocerca*). [zzzxc] Mali, Maninka, leaves food, sap medicine. [zz67]

Benin, helps milk production and good for lactating women. Latex applied as antibiotic vs. wounds and in nostrils vs. headaches. Decoctions and macerations of leaves and roots vs. constipation, urethral discharge, gonorrhoea, stomach-ache and diarrhoea. [zzzob]

Burkina Faso, leaf, stem bark decoction vs. malaria, diabetes, cough, skin diseases and as a galactagogue and for fertility in women. [zz165] Burkina Faso: leaf maceration vs. milk-drying and impotence. Whole plant decoction vs. trypanosomiasis. Latex vs. acute rhinopharyngitis, wounds, injuries. [zzzxi]

Ethiopia, stem sap applied vs. wounds. [zzzna]

Kenya, Turkana, Ng'ikebootok, sap from stems is applied to wounds. [zz156]

E. Sudan, roots given to horses and cattle vs. flatulence. [zz59]

Nigeria, dry fruit fibre as tinder. [zz59]

The plant is host to an aphid that does not attack sorghum so it is cultivated in sorghum fields to attract the natural enemies of aphids.[zz59]

***Leptadenia madagascariensis* Decne.**

Malagasy, Mahafaly: "mojy". [zzzrd]
Sakalava: "vahironto",
Merina: "vahirontona" (= speed or race vine). [zzzrd]
Bara, Mahafaly & Sakalava: "vaheronto". [zzzrd]
Sakalava: "vahirontovavy" (= female ***Leptadenia reticulata***). [zzzrd]
Taimoro: "taritarika",
Tandroy: "tarikarika",
Bara: "taratarika". (= wandering like a clambering vine). [zzzrd]
Madagascar, Mikoboka, Amboronabo, Mahaboboka & Lokar Reserve: "Taritariky". [rrrap]

Young fruits eaten cooked in times of food shortage. [zzzrd]

Madagascar, decoction taken before a long race to prevent stitch. Also used vs. diabetes, while also replacing rice for flint corn in the diet. At Anjiajia in the northwest the freshly expressed juice is used vs. diabetes. Stem decoction as appetizer. Given to women during birth to help expel the placenta. [zzzrd] Madagascar, Lokar Reserve, medicinal vs. low energy/strength. [zzzjl] SW Madagascar, Mikoboka, Amboronabo, Mahaboboka. Leaf decoction drunk for prenatal care. Leaf and leafy twig decoction drunk for recovery after birth. Leafy twig decoction given to drink vs. colic in babies. Young leaf decoction given to drink vs. constipation in babies. Whole plant decoction bath vs. weakness. Root decoction drunk vs. fever. Young leaf and bud decoction for infant's care. [rrrap]

Latex applied vs. infected wounds. [rrrap]

***Leptadenia pyrotechnica* Decne.**

Also reported as *Leptadenia jacquemontiana* and *Leptadenia spartium.*

Teda: "kizzen", [zz164]
"za'aa-sherab elmi",
"um dokum al kelb",
"titarik",
"assabai". [zz38]
Arabic: "markh" (used for the legume *Genista* in Sudan, which looks similar). [zz164]
Dhofar, Dhofari Arabic: “marx”. [rrrbi]
Bahrain: "markh". [zzzjq]
Saudi Arabia, Bedouin: "markh". [zzzwh]
flowers and young fruit together: "ma‘ālīt". [zzzwh]
flower buds: " ‘uthrab", plural " ‘athārīb". [zzzwh]
young fruit " ‘ālūt", plural " ‘āwālīt". [zzzwh]
Somali: "moroh",
"mirug". [zz38]
Sudan, "Marakh",
"Ajwam". [zz15a]
South Kordofan, Algoz: "Mirikh". [zzzof]
Hausa: "kalumbo",
"namijin yaadiyaa".
Tubo: "kalembo",
"kezen",
"kozeum".
Fula: "sabaie".

Songhai: "saabe",
"sabeil".
Tamachek: "anah",
"asabai". [zz38]
Iran, Hormozgan province: "shahm nar",
"shahm oshtori",
"garishahk". [zzzta]
India, Uttar Pradesh: "affo". [zzzjs]
Sindh: "Kip". [zzztk]
India and Pakistan: "khip",
"khimp",
"kheenp",
"khimparo", etc. [zz38]
Pakistan, Makerwal and Gulla Khell: "Khippi". [zzzub]
Sindh/Balochistan, coast areas: "Kheep". [zzziv]
Berber: "titarek",
"kizzen",
"kanouri". [zz39]
Algerian Sahara, Ahaggar: "enag",
"ana". [zz77]
Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer, Touareg Tamahaq: "enag". [zzzsb]
Arabic: "assabay". [zzzsb]
Mali, Adrar des Iforas: "äna",
young plant: "tänawt". [zzzez]
This species has many other names due to its wide natural distribution.

Algerian Sahara, Ahaggar, produces fruit (called "asabaï") in March every year independent of the rains. The fruit is the shape of gazelle horns. Edible though the pulp is cottony. [zz77] Slimy fruit and young twigs eaten by Bedouin. [zz38]

Mali, Adrar des Iforas. Fruit eaten by children and shepherds. [zzzez]

Edible buds once highly appreciated in the United Arab Emirates. [zz243] Dhofar. Flower buds eaten and much appreciated. [rrrbi] Southern Saudi Arabia, some tribes eat the young flowers and fruits. [zz79] Saudi Arabia, Bedouin, flower buds, flowers and young fruit all edible. [zzzwh]

Pods eaten in Rajasthan by Meena tribes. [zz114] Unripe pods cooked and eaten as a vegetable by the Nara in Sindh. [zz179] Pods edible but flavourless. [zz103]

Seed eaten by nomads. Raw flowers eaten by shepherds in Niger. Tuberous root eaten as a vegetable. [zz38]

Rajasthan, India, pods cooked as veg or boiled in whey vs. cough, cold, dropsy and rheumatism. Warmed up plant juice as massage to relieve joint pain and dropsy. Taken orally for the same purpose and vs. jaundice. Plant cut into pieces and cooked in oil used as a massage vs. rheumatic pain. [zz235] India, Uttar Pradesh, ~500g of shoots boiled in ~5 litres of water, areas bathed vs. scabies, boils, itching and pruritis. One bath in the morning and the used shoots re-boiled for the evening bath. Continued for 3-5 days or until cure. [zzzjs] Plant vs. burns, wounds. [zz129] Seed extract as eye lotion. Latex vs. smallpox. Whole plant antihistamine and expectorant. [zz38] In Ayurveda the herbs is regarded as analgetic, anti-inflammatory, anabolic and laxative. [zz114]

Northern Pakistan, Makerwal and Gulla Khell, stem infusion diuretic. [zzzub] Pakistan, Sindh/Balochistan, decoction of stem/whole plant half a cup twice daily for a week vs. urogenital tract disorders, dysmenorrhoea, spermatorrhea, impotence. [zzziv]

Iran, Hormozgan province, powdered aerial parts to help digestion, vs. warts and fungal skin diseases. [zzzta]

Arabia & Bahrain. Infusion of stems and branches as diuretic. [zz79][zzzjq] Yemen, Hajjah district, dried plant vs. kidney stones. [zzzqv] Egypt, Bedouin, branches diuretic and to expel bladderstones. [zz39] Latex vs. ringworm. [zz179] Sudan, root macerated vs.urinary retention. Stem smoke vs. rheumatic pain and sciatica. [zz15a] Mali folk medicine as antispasmodic, anti-inflammatory and antiseptic. [zz55] Mali, Adrar des Iforas, twig infusion vs. parasitic worms. [zzzez] Sudan, South Kordofan, Algoz, smoke from stem as fumigation vs. rheumatic pain. [zzzof] Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer, aerial parts infusion or maceration internally vs. fever, cough, kidney disorders, stones and urinary decrease. Aerial parts infusion or maceration externally vs. dermatosis. [zzzsb] Algeria, Central Sahara. Locals use the plant macerated in water vs. urinary retention, commonly experienced after walking barefoot under the strong summer sun. [rrrhn]

Derives its specific name from the fact that an inextinguishable slow match was made from the plant. [zz59] Though, if it is inextinguishable, it seems to me to be a bad choice for thatching huts in Pakistan. [zz9a, zzzco]

According to my internet-boosted [zz140] lack of Latin, in the original description of *Cynanchum pyrotechnicum* by Petrus Forskål and published in 1775, it was named from its use as tinder:

> "Often everywhere. The inner parts/pith in the shrub are employed as tinder/touchwood to make fire catch, which rubbing flakes of the wood kindles. Resin or juice made into an ointment for smallpox; leading to the marvellous restoration of strength. Countryfolk chew the fresh stems, to clean the teeth." [me]

Original Latin supplementary notes:

> "Frequens ubique. Medulla hujus fruticis pro fomite usurpatur ad ignem excipiendum, qui frictione lignorum folidorum excitatur. Resina vel succo ungunt Variolis laborantem; miro successu vires restituendi. Rustici caules recentes masticant, ad dentes purgandos." [zz74]

Mali, Adrar des Iforas, the light wood used for milking bowls. Rubbed with the hard wood of *Maerua crassifolia* (Capparaceae) to make fire. Fibres for fine cords to prepare vellum. Green branches twisted to make improvised binding. Branches to cover latrines. [zzzez] Niger, twigs woven into baskets and waterproofed with the latex to carry water and milk. Young branches as toothbrushes. Wood as fuel and twigs as tinder. [zz38]

Widespread plant used from Central and North Africa through Arabia, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan to India. Produces high quality fibres similar to flax and ramie but they do not rot in water. Used for ropes (especially well bucket ropes), textiles, hammocks, carpets, rugs, etc. [zz38] India, Sindh, used to make ropes. [zzztk]

The deep root system and abundant branches may help stabilise dunes and reduce wind erosion thus helping against desertification. [zz168]

Leptadenia reticulata **(Retz.) Wight & Arn**

India, Sanskrit: "Jivanti" (from "Jiv" = "life", as it gives health and vigour), "Svarnajivanti". [zz245]
Hindi: "Dori". [zz245]
Maharashtra: "Hirandodi", "Kharkhoda", "Shinguti". [zzzpk]
Ahmednagar: "Hirandodi". [zzzou] [rrrat]
Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal: "Mukku tummudu". [rrrbb]
Konkani: "Thali", "Kennapa". [zzzpo]
Malayalam: "Curinil", "Curiginil", "Curigil". [zzzpo]
Gujurat: "dodishaak". [zz129]
Tamil: "Pálai". [zzzds]
Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills: "Palakudai". [zzzuo]
Malagasy, Sakalava: "vahirontolahy" (= male ***Leptadenia madagascariensis***). [zzzrd]

Leaves, young shoots and follicles edible. [zzzcv] Tubers, shoots, follicles eaten as veg in scarcity. [zzzgw] Maharashtra, Ahmednagar, Akole Tehsil, cooked flower as veg. [zzzou]

The seventh volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1688. One of the plants pictured and described was called Curinil or Curiginil or Curigil in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the plant as *Leptadenia reticulata*. [zzzpr] The author of the *Horti Malabarici* described the uses of the plant:

> "The fruits are oblong, the bark bright green, the flesh whitish, moist, the flavor somewhat bitter; they contain a hard and whitish bone, which includes a white core, whose flavor is a little bitter and astringent. Only native to Baypim island, always fruiting. Leaf juice is applied instead of a bath [or applied as a bath to the place?], against the swelling which the Malabar people call *Tsjádeunir*: root cooked in rice water and used as a drink is excellent for the same."

In the original Latin:

> "*Fructus* oblongi sunt, cortice viridi claro, carne albicante subhumida, saporis subamari; ossiculum in se continent durum & albicans , quod nucleum album includit, cujus sapor subamarus & nonnihil adstringens. Natale solum est insula *Baypim*, semper frugens. Foliorum succus loco balnei adhibetur, adversus tumorem quem Malabarenses *Tsjádeunir*, nuncupant; radix in aqua oryzæ cocta & pro potu usurpata, idem præstat." [zzzpo]

India. Many other herbs may be called Jivanti, including Guduuchi, *Tinospora* species (Menispermaceae), Kaakoli, *Lilium polyphyllum* (Liliaceae) or *Roscoea procera* (Zingiberaceae), Medaa, *Polygonatum* species (Asparagaceae) and Vrkshaadani, *Acampe papillosa* (Orchidaceae) or *Dendrophthoe falcata* (Loranthaceae). [zz129]

Used since 4500 BC. Whole plant vs. general debility, involuntary seminal discharge, prostatitis, mouth ulcers and as a stimulant, abortifacient tonic, restorative, bactericidal, antifebrifuge and wound healer. Roots used in many Ayurvedic formulations for ear, nose and skin ailments. The herb is in great demand. [zz208]

Root, leaf and fruit used in Indian herbal medicine as a galactogogue, vasodilator and anabolic.[zz184] In Ayurveda as an immune booster, rejuvenator and prescribed to increase longevity. [zz81] One of the Rasayana herbs, alleviating symptoms of ageing and promoting vitality. One of the ten "Jivaniya Gana", "Vitalising Group". Leaf, root, whole plant used. Stimulant, restorative. Leaves, roots vs. skin affections such as ringworm, wounds, nose and ear disorders, asthma, cough, habitual miscarriage. Also used in veterinary medicine. An alcoholic extract of the aerial parts was shown to have LD50 greater than 1000mg/kg injected intraperitoneally in mice. Dose of root powder: 1-3g. [zz245] Dose of root powder 3-6g. [zz129]

Tonic vs. lack of strength. Leaves/roots vs. skin diseases, skin inflammations, wounds. [zzzgw] Rajasthan, India, paste of leaves and seeds vs. gangrene. [zz113] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Leaf paste in water applied vs. skin diseases. [rrrat] India, Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Leaves and root vs. tuberculosis, cardiac and skin diseases. [rrrbb] Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills, whole plant decoction as restorative and vs. fevers. [zzzuo]

Chicken feed to help egg-laying. [zzzgw]

1.36% hydrocarbon/rubber of fresh weight. [zzzar]

***Leptadenia viminea* (Wight) Bruyns**
Reported as *Orthanthera viminea.*

Pakistan: "Khip",
"Chapkia",
"Mahur-Ghas".
Punjab: "mattí",
"mowá",
"lánebar",
"khíp",
"kip". [zzzsk]

Pakistan, flower buds eaten as vegetable. [zz14a] Uttar Pradesh, flower buds eaten raw or cooked. [zz217]

North India. Rope made from the stem fibre is resistant to rot when wet. Used in constructing "Persian wheels", buckets attached to the rim of a wheel are used to draw up water for irrigation, etc. [zzzsk] Uttar Pradesh. Fibres made into rope. [zz217]

M

Macroscepis grandiflora **(Mart.) H.A.Keller & Liede {Asclepiadeae - Gonolobinae}**
Reported as *Schubertia grandiflora.*

Argentina, East Chaco, Toba: "l(u)gua*r*ái",
"k*a*guetá lteté lâteé". [zzzpc]
Argentina, Chaco, Vilela: "soonók". [zzzpb]

Argentina, East Chaco, Toba, fruit eaten boiled or roasted. [zzzpc] Argentina, Chaco, Vilela, fruit eaten raw, boiled or roasted. [zzzpb] South America, Gran Chaco - Fruit eaten by Maká, Western & Eastern Toba, Vilela and Wichi. [fffaq]

Macroscepis schreiteri **(Descole & T.Mey.) H.A.Keller & Liede**
Reported as *Schubertia schreiteri*.

Argentina, Chorote, Yójwaha: "héshini",
Yówujwa: "téshini". [zzzrj]

Argentina, Chorote, unripe fruits eaten raw with salt and water. Fruits eaten roasted with fish fats. Leaves and flowers eaten when there are no fruit. Leaves and flowers baked when they are plentiful. [zzzrj] South America, Gran Chaco - Fruit eaten by Chorote, Western Toba and Wichi peoples. [fffaq]

Margaretta rosea **Oliv. {Asclepiadeae – Asclepiadinae}**
Including *Margaretta rosea* subsp. *whytei*. which was previously *Margaretta whytei.*

Southern Malawi: "gwapi" (= duiker, from the seed pods like horns, see also ***Cryptolepis oblongifolia***),
"katulutulu",
"katunga",
"mtibulo",
"napose",
"nsangale".
Tanzania, Zigua: "gosi". [zz189]

Southern Malawi, widely used as a potency medicine for men. The sweet root chewed or infusion drunk to produce semen. Also vs. gonorrhoea. Dried leaves as wash for good luck. [zz160] Tanzania, Zigua. Male aphrodisiac, leaves boiled and water drunk. [zz189]

Margaretta whytei see ***Margaretta rosea.***

Marsdenia abyssinica see ***Stephanotis abyssinica***

Marsdenia akkar see ***Marsdenia tinctoria***

Marsdenia amylacea see ***Ruehssia amylacea***

Marsdenia angolensis see ***Gongronemopsis angolensis***

Marsdenia australis see ***Leichhardtia australis***

Marsdenia castillonii see ***Ruehssia castillonii***

Marsdenia cavaleriei see ***Gongronemopsis cavalieri***

Marsdenia cinerascens see ***Vincetoxicum cinerascens***

Marsdenia coulteri see ***Ruehssia coulteri***

Marsdenia cryptostemma **Choux {Marsdenieae}**
Malagasy, Tankarana and Tsimihety: "tsitandrotandroka" (fake "tandrokosy", see ***Pentopetia androsaemifolia***).
Tsimihety: "vanohiaka" (= “successful bullying”, as it overgrows other plants). [zzzrd]
Madagascar, bad latex used to adulterate proper rubber. [zzzrd]

Marsdenia cundurango see ***Ruehssia cundurango***

Marsdenia edulis see ***Ruehssia edulis***

Marsdenia flavescens see ***Leichhardtia flavescens***

Marsdenia floribunda see ***Stephanotis floribunda***

Marsdenia glabra **Costantin**
Thailand, Ubon Ratchathani province, Ubon: "Somlom khao". [zzzsx]
Thai: "Phak saeo". [zzzsx]
China: 光葉藍葉藤 "guang yelan ye teng". [zz141]

Thailand, Ubon Ratchathani province. Whole plant decoction orally vs. flatulence. [zzzsx]

China, bark, flowers and leaves used for a blue dye. [zz141]

Marsdenia griffithii **Hook.f.**
China, Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains: “Dabaigai”. [fffai]

China, Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains - Root "heat-clearing and detoxifying", used vs. gastroenteritis, diabetes mellitus. [fffai]

***Marsdenia hamiltonii* Wight**
India, Bihar: "Moron arak". [rrrga]

India, Bihar. Fruits eaten. [rrrga]

Marsdenia lanata see ***Ruehssia lanata***

Marsdenia latifolia see ***Gongronemopsis latifolia***

Marsdenia leichhardtiana see ***Leichhardtia australis***

Marsdenia longipes see ***Gongreos filipes***

Marsdenia macrophylla see ***Ruehssia macrophylla***

Marsdenia mexicana see ***Ruehssia mexicana***

***Marsdenia officinalis* Tsiang & P.T. Li**
China: 海楓藤 "hai feng teng" [zz141] (= sea maple vine).

China. Decoction of all parts to stimulate blood circulation. [zz141]

***Marsdenia oreophila* W.W. Sm.**
China: "hui zhu niu nai cai" [zzzau], 喙柱牛奶菜 [zz141] (= beak-shaped cow milk veg).

China. Rhizome vs. bleeding from wounds, fractures and pain from loins and back. [zzzau]

Marsdenia paraguaiensis see ***Ruehssia paraguaiensis***

Marsdenia parviflora see ***Marsdenia tinctoria***

Marsdenia parvifolia see ***Ruehssia parvifolia***

Marsdenia propinqua see ***Ruehssia propinqua***

Marsdenia robusta see ***Stephanotis arabica***

***Marsdenia roylei* Wight**
Sometimes reported as *Pergularia roylei.*

India: "murkúla",
"pathor",
"tar",
"veri",
"kurang",
"kharchu",
"shengori". [zzzci]

India, "Muurvaa",
"Maruaa-bel",
"Dudilaro". [rrrfx]
Punjab: "pathor",
Salt Range: "tar",
"verí". [zzzsk]
Garhwal: "Khaarchu". [rrrfx]
Sikkim: "Bahuni Lahara". [zzzai]

India, foothills of the Himalayas. Used as a local subsitute for the Ayurvedic medicine "Murva", officially ***Gongronemopsis tenacissima***. [rrrfx]

Punjab. Unripe fruit powdered and given as a cooling medicine. [zzzsk] India, Sikkim, roots and leaves commonly used for a cooling effect in gonorrhoea. [zzzai] Follicles used for a cooling and alterative effect in gonorrhoea. [zzzff] India, North Sikkim, Dzongu Valley, Lepcha tribe, decoction of unripe fruit, root and leaf vs. burning sensation in genitals. [zzzaj] India, North western Himalaya, Manali, root vs. cold, eye complaints and gonorrhoea. [zzzce] Stem juice used vs. gastric troubles and peptic ulcers. [rrrfx]

India, stems used to make fibre for fishing nets, lines and strong rope. [zzzci] Rope is made from the strong, silky-white fibres from the stem. [rrrfx]

Marsdenia rubicunda see ***Stephanotis rubicunda***

Marsdenia rubrofusca see ***Ruehssia rubrofusca***

***Marsdenia sinensis* Hemsl.**
Not to be confused with *Dregea sinensis* Hemsl, now ***Kushengia sinensis***. Several species have been moved from *Marsdenia* to *Dregea* and vice versa. Both species were originally named by William Hemsley and are found in China.

China: 牛奶菜 "niu nai cai" [zz141] (= Cow Milk Vegetable).

China, decoction of all parts vs. viper bites, pain, traumatic injury and swelling. [zz141]

Marsdenia spissa see ***Stephanotis abyssinica***

***Marsdenia stenocentra* Bakh.f.**
Reported as *Tylophora blumei*.

Java: "Aroy kilampahan".

Java, thick, leathery leaves are thinly sliced, oiled and eaten with rice. [zzzcg]

Marsdenia sylvestris see ***Gymnema sylvestre***

Marsdenia tagudinia see ***Marsdenia tinctoria***

Marsdenia tenacissima see ***Gongronemopsis tenacissima***

Marsdenia tholiformis see ***Ruehssia tholiformis***

Marsdenia thyrsiflora see ***Dischidanthus thyrsiflorus***

***Marsdenia tinctoria* R.Br.**
Also reported as *Marsdenia akkar*, *Marsdenia parviflora* and *Marsdenia tagudinia*. Not to be confused with *Marsdenia tinctoria* Hook. f., see ***Dischidanthus thyrsiflorus***.

China: 蓝叶藤 "lan ye teng" [zz141] (= "blue leaf vine").
India, Sikkim: "Kali lara",
"Ryom". [zzzac]
Laos, Borikhane District: "Bûak". [zzzmk]
Thailand: "Aka-ta-kong",
"Boek",
"Buek",
"Kram-tao",
"Tao-kram". [zzzsm]
Borneo, Iban Dayak: "tarum padi".[zzzcb]
Indonesia, Sumatra, Serampas: "Tarum",
"Daun Tarum". [zzzcd]
Java: "Aroy tarroem". [zzzcg]
Philippines, Luzon Island, Ilocos: "tayomtayom",
Bisayan/Visayan: "Payanguit",
“Aringit”. [fffae]

In 1832, excellent quality and quantity of dye produced compared to indigo. [zzzcc] Malay Archipelago, cultivated at every property on the west coast of Sumatra. Source of an indigo-like dye. Needs less water than indigo but is always well-fertilised with burnt buffalo dung. [zzzhh] Laos, Borikhane District, in 1932 cultivated as a dye plant. [zzzmk] Bark, flowers and leaves used for a blue dye. [zz141]

In 1837, this species was reported to have been used since ancient times as a beautiful blue dye for Manila hemp (*Musa textilis*) by the natives of the Camarines, in the north part of Luzon in the Philippines. Said to be as good as second quality indigo, though faster and easier to grow, with larger leaves and the content of dye being very abundant. Philippines, northwestern Luzon Island, Tagudin, used to effectively dye cotton a lasting blue. The author Manuel Blanco did not manage to dye Manila hemp with this variety, though the natives of the Camarines had no problem using theirs to dye it. In both places, lime (the mineral not the fruit) was added to the dye bath. [fffae]

Borneo, Iban Dayak, leaves pounded with lime and used to produce black and blue colours (which develop after oxidation in the air) in the ritually important cotton *pua* cloth. The weaving and dyeing are regarded as spiritually dangerous procedures. [zzzcb] Java, leaves are soaked in water which becomes dark blue and is used as indigo. This plant is called "Aroy tarroem". “Tarroem” is the name for indigo in Java. [zzzcg]

Southeast Asia, cultivated for indigo-like dye. [zzzsm]

Vietnam, Bien Hoa, in 1921, the plant collector Eugène Poilane noted that the latex was used vs. wounds and sores. In the original French:

> "Le latex est employé contre les blessures et plaies." [zzzml]

Indonesia, Sumatra, Serampas. Used vs. memar (contusion?) and demam (fever?) and to expel bad spirits. [zzzcd]

Sundanese. Leaves sometimes internally vs. stomachache and other vague infirmities, rubbed on heads of small children and bald men for hair growth. [zzzhh]

Bangladesh, Shautal. Used to induce abortion. [zzzab] India, Sikkim, leaf juice three times daily vs. stomachache. [zzzac]

Marsdenia tingens see ***Gymnema inodorum***

Marsdenia tomentosa **Morren & Decne.**
Japanese: “Kijo-ran”. [zzzra]

Japan, vines used for ropes and bowstrings. [zz237]

Marsdenia truncata see ***Gongronemopsis truncata***

Marsdenia velutina see ***Leichhardtia velutina***

Marsdenia verrucosa see ***Sicyocarpus verrucosus***

Marsdenia viridiflora see ***Leichhardtia viridiflora***

Marsdenia volubilis see ***Wattakaka volubilis***

Marsdenia zimapanica see ***Ruehssia zimapanica***

Mastostigma varians see ***Cynanchum registanense***

Matelea **spp. {Asclepiadeae – Gonolobinae}**

Mexico, Tlaxcala, San Juan Quetzalcoapan: "clalayote", as *Matelea* sp. but may be ***Chthamalia decumbens*** or ***Chthamalia prostrata***. Some part edible. [zzzek]

Matelea australis see ***Cristobalia australis***

Matelea biflora see ***Chthamalia biflora***

Matelea boliviensis see ***Ibatia boliviensis***

Matelea carolinensis see ***Odontostephana carolinensis***

Matelea caudata see ***Talayotea caudata***

Matelea cordifolia see ***Polystemma cordifolium***

Matelea crenata **(Vail) Woodson**

Mexico,	Oaxaca/Puebla, Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley:	"Tilahpi". [zzzkf]
	Oaxaca, Puebla & Guerrero:	"Tilahpi". [rrrep]

Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley, edible, medicinal. [zzzkf] Mexico. Boiled fruit eaten. [rrrep]

Matelea cynanchoides see ***Chthamalia cynanchoides***

Matelea decumbens see ***Chthamalia decumbens***

Matelea denticulata see ***Chloropetalum denticulatum***

Matelea elliptica see ***Ibatia elliptica***

Matelea hispida see ***Cristobalia hispida***

Matelea lanata see ***Trichosacme lanata***

Matelea maritima see ***Ibatia maritima***

Matelea obliqua see ***Odontostephana obliqua***

Matelea palustris **Aubl.**

Ecuador, Rio Pastaza region. Leaves cooked and eaten, turn the teeth red. No apparent utilitarian purpose in this. [zzzbm]

Matelea pedunculata see ***Chthamalia pedunculata***

Matelea picturata **(Hemsl.) Woodson**
Also reported as *Matelea pittieri*.

Wilted leaves (and less so, the flowers) produce a distinct blackish purple dye. [zzzdw]
Native range: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico and Panamá. See also ***Matelea tinctoria***.

Matelea pilosa see ***Polystemma pilosum***

Matelea pittieri see ***Matelea picturata***

Matelea producta see ***Chthamalia producta***

Matelea prostrata see ***Chthamalia prostrata***

***Matelea tinctoria* Woodson**

Costa Rica. Wilted leaves (and less so, the flowers) produce a distinct blackish purple dye. [zzzdw] See also ***Matelea picturata***.

Matelea trachyantha see ***Talayotea trachyantha***

Matelea viridiflora see ***Matelea denticulata***

Menabea venenata see ***Pervillaea venenata***

Metaplexis chinensis see ***Cynanchum rostellatum***

Metaplexis japonica see ***Cynanchum rostellatum***

Metaplexis stauntonii see ***Cynanchum rostellatum***

Metastelma angustifolium (Rusby) Morillo is *Irmischia angustifolia*, probably a *Metastelma*
Metastelma angustifolium Torr. is *Metastelma mexicanum*
Metastelma angustifolium Turcz. see ***Orthosia angustifolia***

***Metastelma schlechtendalii* Decne. {Asclepiadeae - Metastelmatinae}**
Not to be confused with *Metastelma schlechtendalii* Chapm. now *Metastelma bahamense*.

Mexico, Popoluca. Fresh latex applied vs. mycosis (fungal infection). [zzzhb]

***Microloma* spp. {Asclepiadeae - Astephaninae}**
South Africa, Namibia: "bokhoringkies",
"kannetjies".

South Africa, Namibia, fruit eaten fresh or cooked. [zz89]

***Microloma armatum* (Thunb.) Schltr. ex E.Gilg & Benedict**

Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

***Microloma calycinum* E.Mey.**

Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

***Microloma namaquense* Bolus**

Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

Microloma sagittatum **(L.) R. Br.**

Southern Africa, red-coloured root infusion vs. abdominal griping pain. A piece of root chewed when no water available. [zz241] Southern Africa, fruit pods edible. [zzznx, zzznw]

Leaves very nice and tasty but it never flowered for me. [me]

Microloma tenuifolium **(L.) Kuntze**

Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

Microstemma tuberosum see ***Ceropegia glabriflora***

Microstephanus cernuus see ***Vincetoxicum cernuum***

Miraglossum pulchellum **(Schltr.) Kupicha {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Sehoètè Mpulutsoana" (= "greyish carrot"). [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The root is eaten raw." [zzznz] Swaziland, edible roots. [zz144]

Mitolepis arbuscula see ***Cryptolepis arbuscula***

Mitolepis intricata see ***Cryptolepis intricata***

Mondia ecornuta **(N.E.Br.) Bullock {Periplocoideae}**
Tanzania, Kihehe: "mwendo",
"wendi",
Kipogoro: "mwende". [zz238]

Root extracts vs. malaria, pinworms and as an antispasmodic for stomach and intestines. Macerated "skin" of the root vs. bilharzia parasites. [zz238]

Mondia whitei **(Hook. f.) Skeels**
Formerly *Chlorocodon whitei*.

South Africa, Zulu: "uMondi" (which inspired the generic name). [zz238, zzzja, zzzmz]
"mundi",
"mindi". [rrree][zz238]
Swaziland: "umondi". [zz144]
Democratic Republic of Congo, Bas-Congo, Kongo: "mundiondia",
"kimbiolongo",
"ntubungu". [zzzpx]
Angola: "mundondo",
"mudondo". [zz238]
Guinea Bissau, Fula: "lacadje".
Mlawi: "citumbulo". [zz238]

Central African Republic, Cissongo: "mundondo",
"bondo",
"molo busio". [zz238]
Uganda, Bulamogi: "Mulondo". [zz223]
Mabira Central Forest Reserve: "Mulondo". [zzzoi]
"sedando omutona". [zz238]
Democratic Republic of Congo, Ngombe: "Mbuluku". [zzzqa]
Ngwaka: "Wilikumbe",
"Kumbe". [zzzqa]
Tanzania, Swahili: "mbombongazi". [zz132]
Kenya: "muombo",
"ogombo". [zz122]
Kikuyu: "mũhũkũũra". [zz136]
Kakamega County, AbaWanga people: "Omukombera"
(= "One admires playing sex once the plant is used"). [rrrar]
Cameroon: "nkang bongo",
"nkang si",
"dimté",
"nga'lomsi". [zz171]

AS White of Natal, South Africa sent John Dalton Hooker a living plant and details of uses. Aromatic roots were “extensively collected and sold by the native tribes” as a stomachic. Collected so avidly that it had become rare in the district. It was always found within a few miles of the sea. The nearer the sea, the sweeter and better the flavour of the root. [rrree]

Roots so popular that the plant is threatened with extinction in the wild, only found now in reserves and gardens. Thickened woody roots, not tubers. [zz238] Root used by Zulus to make a beverage like ginger beer. The tuber is used as food in Kenya. [zz122] As a flavour for porridge, tea and herbal medicine in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa. [zz163]

Root powder as a spice in Bamileke sauces in Cameroon. [zz171] In West Africa, the roots are used to make an energizing drink for wedding parties when the roots are brewed in alcohol. [zz211] Democratic Republic of Congo, Bas-Congo, leaves called "nlondo" in Kongo, cut into large pieces, dried and cooked with peanut butter. [zzzpx]

Democratic Republic of Congo, Bas-Congo, fleshy rootbark eaten raw, or occasionally dried, to freshen mouth, as aphrodisiac and appetizer. [zzzpx] Kenya, Kakamega County, AbaWanga people. Root, flowers and fruit as an appetiser. [rrrar]

Democratic Republic of Congo, liana powder infusion, one tablespoonful in a glass of water twice a day orally vs. gastrointestinal pain and worms. Fresh leaves pounded with leaves of *Colocasia esculenta* (Araceae) and *Laportea aestuans* (Urticaceae) as food vs. mental disorder. Macerated liana as enema twice per week vs. severe abdominal pain in children. The liana worn as a belt at the level of the pelvis or hips vs. severe abdominal pain in children. [zzzqa]

Zulu, root carried by everyone fortunate enough to procure it (reported in 1909). Portion of the root chewed "whenever the digestion may seek relief". Perfectly harmless and not unpleasant to the palate. [zzzja] Zululand, root/bark used to increase appetite, as purgative and vs. stomach ache. [zzzmz] Democratic Republic of Congo, Bas-Congo. Roots eaten vs. coughing, stomachache and haemorrhoids. Zimbabwe, root infusions vs. constipation, anorexia, bilharzia and as aphrodisiac. [zzzpx]

Apart from many other medicinal applications [zz135] it is used as far apart as Cameroon, Kenya and Malawi as an aphrodisiac. At Entebbe in Uganda the Baganda chew one small, peeled root vs. impotence and lack of appetite. [zz86] In Bulamogi, Uganda they drink the tuber powder on (*sic*) tea or chew the root vs. premature ejaculation and abdominal pain. [zz223] Uganda, Oyam District, root chewed vs. headache, cough. Root crushed and added to water, drunk vs. flu, cold and abdominal pain. [zzzfr] Uganda, Mabira Central Forest Reserve, root chewed vs. erectile dysfunction and low appetite in sickness. [zzzoi]

In Tanzania used as a cure vs. gonorrhoea, causes profuse urination. [zz132] Tanzania, Shambala vs. heartburn, impotence and fits in children. Tanzania, Bondei, root vs. body pains. Tanzania, Haya, plant as uterine stimulant during birth. [zz241] In Cameroon used vs. sexual weakness. One teaspoonful of root powder once per day. [zz171]

Swaziland, roots for stress, tension, indigestion & constipation. Aphrodisiac. Bark and leaves help labour pains, for easy birth and a healthy child. [zz144] Zulu, stomachic, [zz238] vs. abdominal disorders, indigestion. [zz241] South Africa, roots chewed to treat stress and tension. Roots still in much demand, mainly obtained from the wild. [zz135]

South Malawi, "Just chew it for failure of the man in the house." Powdered, dried roots for potency and vs. infertility, headache, diarrhoea, stomach problems and gonorrhoea. [zz160]

Democratic Republic of Congo, two tablespoons of root decoction by mouth vs. sterility. [zzzpz]

Frequently cultivated by the Kikuyu because its sweet-scented roots were in great demand for making a magic powder and for sale to the Maasai tribe in large quantities. Propagated by pieces of root. Sole ingredient of rũthuko magic powder and included in other magic powders such as mũguco. Rũthuko powder attracts anything its possessor wishes to attract, e.g. cattle. When the root is dug root beer and finger millet are poured at the foot of the plant as an offering. [zz136] Kenya, Kikuyu, Luhya, Nandi, Luo, the fleshy bark of the narrow roots eaten raw or occasionally in dried state for its good taste. Luhya as appetizer. Luhya, Kikuyu, to freshen the mouth. Kikuyu, for pleasure. The root tastes rather hot and bitter at first then slightly sweet later. It leaves a persistent spicy taste in the mouth which is easily recognized. The root may be dried, stored and eaten when desired. Maasai, roots used for gonorrhoea and said to cause profuse urination. Luhya, Kikuyu, roots chewed as aphrodisiac and cure for impotence. Kikuyu. To contract the uterus after delivery. Luhya, roots chewed for good luck before setting out to perform a difficult task. [zz156] Kenya. Stems and roots traded in markets in Nairobi, Kajiado and Narok counties. [rrrgt]

Seed is used as an arrow poison. A glucoside in the root kills frogs. [zz241] A strong fibre can be made from the stems [zz238, zzzpx] with fibres to 5 feet (1.5m) in length. [zz241]

The characteristic vanilla-like odour and licorice/ginger taste of the root is due to 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde [zz163] (para-methoxysalicylaldehyde, a positional isomer of vanillin giving 0.2 - 0.5% by steam distillation. [zz241]

This compound is a tyrosinase inhibitor [zz163] and kills mosquito larvae. [zz148] The aphrodisiac effect may be due to the stimulation of nitric oxide synthase and raised cGMP, the same system affected by Viagra. [zz153]

Mondillin There does not seem to be a common name for the chemical compound 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (or para-methoxysalicylaldehyde). It could be called norpaeonol as it is like paeonol with one less -CH_2- in its structure. However, I have now coined the name mondillin just for this latest version of this book in June 2026. Many other plants in the subfamily Periplocoideae have this compound but all of them have the typical botanical Latin nonsense names. *Periploca* is the obvious choice, but there are several very similar names to “peripllin”, “periplin” or “perillin” already used in chemistry. Mondillin seems the most aesthetically pleasing of all the possibilities and is from a common name of the plant. I love the flavour of mondillin. I thought it deserves a proper name as well as the technical name approved by IUPAC which ordinary readers might find intimidating.

For other species that contain mondillin, see at least three species of ***Decalepis*** as well as ***Hemidesmus indicus***, ***Periploca angustifolia***, ***Periploca graeca***, ***Periploca laevigata***, ***Periploca sepium*** and ***Zygostelma benthamii***. There are certainly more species in the subfamily Periploicoideae that contain mondillin that have not yet been tested.

Tasting notes: Roots taken from a home-grown *Mondia whitei* after 9 months from bought seed [zz197], started under fluorescents but mostly stood on a windowsill or out on the balcony on warm days. It is said that it should be harvested after 15 years [zz238] but I got impatient and did not have room for a vine of 18 metres of height. The plant had filled a 25cm pot with many roots and kept reaching out to snare the light fixture on the ceiling. About a dozen roots were about 5mm thick and up to 25cm long, about the consistency of a slightly woody carrot. A tea made from 7 grammes of the fresh root chopped finely had a powerful and distinct taste very similar to ***Hemidesmus indicus*** tea, the characteristic flavour of mondillin but without the strong sweet flavour. The taste was still there after refilling the cup three times. Warm and fragrant rather than spicy hot, the taste did linger for a long time after drinking the tea. Delicious. Vodka took on the flavour of the finely-chopped fresh roots very quickly. [me]

Monolluma hexagona **(Lavranos) Meve & Liede {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Yemen,	Southern:	"Uruz",	
		"Mequrezh". [zzzpv]	
	central Abyan,	Mukeiras district:	"Mequrezh". [zzznu]
		Lawdar district:	"Uruz". [zzznu]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter.[zzzpv]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, raw fresh young stem pieces eaten vs. diabetes, abdominal pain, stomach ulcer, skin itching and as an antidote to poisoning. Stem juice applied vs. wounds. [zzznu]

Monolluma quadrangula **(Forssk.) Plowes**
Sometimes reported as *Caralluma quadrangula.*

Holy Land Arabic:	"gholaḳ",
	"gholeẓ",
	"gholef". [zz146]
Arabic:	"Gholef",
	"Gholœs",
	"Gholak". [zz74]

Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah: "غلف - Gelf" [fffat]
Yemen: "ġulâf aljudarî". [zz73]
central Abyan, Lawdar, Modyah & Al-Wadhee districts: "Uruz". [zzznu]
central Abyan, Mukeiras district: "Mequrezh". [zzznu]
Southern: "Uruz",
"Mequrezh",
"Mulaauzah",
"Qarnat-adhabia",
"Hwimadhah",
"Dhaba",
"Dhagohom". [zzzpv]
Dhofar, Jibbali: "źója' śer'áyn",
flowers: "teġbāneh", See also ***Desmidorchis flava***.
fruits: "ḳurūn" (= horns),
young and tender: "rġúź". [rrrbi]
Dhofari Arabic: "šereyōn". [rrrbi]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter. Sold in local markets. Reported by all 250 informants. [zzzpv]

Oman, fresh succulent stems, flowers and young fruit eaten. Stem becomes bitter towards the lower end. [zz79] Dhofar. Very common. More bitter and astringent than and preferred to ***Desmidorchis flava***, the whole plant is edible – stems, sweet-scented flowers and fruit. Can cause diarrhoea if eaten to excess. Large flowering heads have a fresh delicious flavour. Herders would forage large amounts of tips to bring back. [rrrbi]

Yemen, sap of stem ophthalmic, antiseptic. [zz73] Yemen, central Abyan governate, raw fresh young stem pieces eaten as an antidote to poisoning, vs. diabetes, abdominal pain, gastritis. Stem juice applied vs. wounds. [zzznu] Yemen, Hajjah district, fresh stem chewed vs. stomach ulcers and diabetes. [zzzqv]

Saudi Arabia, latex from taller plants has economic importance as a medicinal. [zzztr] Saudia Arabia, Bedouins, vs. thirst, hunger, vitiligo, melasma (hyperpigmentation of the skin), freckles. [zzzge] Saudi Arabia, SW border with Yemen, Al Khobah - "leaves"(?) heated on coal to soften, squeezed to get rid of some juice, cooked with spices and eaten vs. influenza, diabetes and spasms. [fffat]

Monolluma socotrana (Balf.f.) Meve & Liede
Sometimes reported as *Caralluma socotrana.*

Socotra, Soqotri simplified:
"mish'hahir",
"mish'kayrem" (= "eaten to still hunger"),
"mish'hermihim".
"mish'hermihum di e'efo" (= "Carallumas for people", i.e. edible, contrasted with "mish'hermihum di girbak", "Carallumas for wild cats").
"mish'hermihim afir" (= "red Caralluma", for dark plants). [rrrbd]
For "mish'hermihim", see ***Duvaliandra dioscoridis***, Socotran ***Echidnopsis*** and ***Edithcolea***.
Kenya, Sumburu district, Suiei Dorobo: "mpashach". [zz7a]
Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo: "mbachache". [rrras]
Pokot: "amanyan-pochepkono". [zzzwm]

Socotra. Flowers, fruit and green tips all eaten, always raw, often peeled to avoid bitter skin. People suffer less with thirst when this plant is eaten. In hunger the darker, drier stems eaten. Plants recover fast with rains and were an important food for the hungry times when the rains had just begun. [rrrbd]

Stems crushed to clean hands. [rrrbd]

⊢
Northern Kenya, Pokot, food use. [zzzwm] East Kenya, Sumburu district, Suiei Dorobo: Stem eaten raw. [zz7a] Northern Kenya, Matthews Range, Suiei Dorobo. Stem edible. Not important in the diet. [rrras] The reference [zz7a] has disappeared off the internet and I have no idea how reliable it was. Samburu County is in the north and slightly west of centre in Kenya. Matthews Range is in Samburu County. All the same plants listed by [zz7a] are also listed by [rrras].
⊢

Monolluma solenophora **(Lavranos) Meve & Liede**

Yemen	central Abyan,	Mukeiras district:	"Khusmaa",
		Lawdar district:	"Uruz". [zzznu]
	Southern:	"Uruz",	
		"Khusmaa". [zzzpv]	

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter.[zzzpv]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, stem juice smeared on affected area vs. wounds and boils. [zzznu]

Morrenia spp. see ***Araujia*** **spp.**

Morrenia brachystephana see ***Araujia brachystephana***

Morrenia connectens see ***Araujia variegata***

Morrenia stuckertiana subsp. *grandiflora* see ***Araujia stuckertiana*** **subsp.** ***grandiflora***

Morrenia herzogii see ***Araujia herzogii***

Morrenia odorata see ***Araujia odorata***

Morrenia schulziana see ***Araujia stormiana***

Morrenia stormiana see ***Araujia stormiana***

Morrenia stuckertiana subsp. *grandiflora* see ***Araujia stuckertiana*** **subsp.** ***grandiflora***

Morrenia variegata see ***Araujia variegata***

Myriopteron extensum **(Wight & Arn.) K. Schum. {Periplocoideae}**
The generic name *Myriopteron* is from the ancient Greek μυρίος - "myrios": “numberless, infinite or ten thousand” and πτερόν - "pteron": “feather”, “wing”, referring to the many flanges on the fruit.

China, Yunnan: "shankugua". [zzzis] Probably = 山苦瓜 "mountain *Momordica charantia*"
a cucurbit vine with edible fruit ornamented with ridges and knobbles.
China: 翅果藤 "chi guo teng" (= wing fruit vine). [zz141]
Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai: "cha em". [zzzpu, zzzsm]
Thailand: "Khao-san",
"Khom-luang",
"Khom-lueang",
"Khruea-khao",
"Kon",
"Pang-mai",
"Oi-saen-suan",
"Oi-sam-suan". [zzzsm]

China, Yunnan, pericarps edible. Very sweet due to pregnane glycosides with a sweetness intensity 50 to 400 times that of sugar. Used to prepare pickles by the Yao people. [zzzis]

Thailand, young fruits boiled as a vegetable. [zzzsm] Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai, young leaves and fruit from forest used for food. [zzzpu]

China, roots vs. pulmonary tuberculosis and cough. [zz141]

N

The only asclepiad genera that begin with N are *Nautonia*, *Nephradenia*, *Neoschumannia* and *Notechidnopsis*. I failed to find any references to their uses.

O

Odontostephana carolinensis ***(Jacq.) Alexander***
Reported as *Gonolobus hirsutus* Michx. not *Gonolobus hirsutus* Pursh., see next species. Also called *Matelea carolinensis.*

US English "Negro Vine". (1830, possibly from the dark purple-brown flowers?) [rrrbj]

USA. "Root drastic, acting on the bowels like Colocynth" – colocynth is a potent and dangerous purgative. [rrrbj]

Guyana. Juice as arrow poison, but this must be a different species as *Odontostephana carolinensis* is now considered to be restricted to the south and east of the United States. [rrrbj] See also ***Gonolobus suberosus****.*

Odontostephana obliqua **(Jacq.) Alexander**
Gonolobus hirsutus Pursh. not *Gonolobus hirsutus* Michx., see last species.

Plants of the World Online has "It is used as a medicine" in their brief description of this species. The only reference they give is the Useful Plants and Fungi of Colombia. This species is only native to the northeast United States. [zzzrh] I found one herbarium specimen on GBIF listed as being from Colombia. The herbarium sheet itself thought it was from Washington, District of Columbia. It mentioned the *Flora Columbiana*, a book of the local flora compiled by the Potomac-Side Naturalists' Club. [rrrge] I have tried various searches but I haven't found any other reference to the plant being used in medicine.

Omphalogonus calophyllus see ***Cryptolepis calophyllus***

Omphalogonus nigritanus see ***Cryptolepis calophyllus***

Ophionella **spp. {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**

South Africa, stems edible when turgid after rains, lettuce-like flavour. [zzzow]

Orbea carnosa **ssp.** ***keithii*** **(R.A. Dyer) Bruyns {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**

Swaziland. Whole plant said to be edible, below ground parts are less bitter. [zz144]
Southern Africa, whole plant, stem as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

Swaziland. Medicinal. [zz144]

***Orbea decaisneana* (Lem.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Caralluma decaisneana*, *Caralluma decaisneana* subsp. *hesperidum*, *Caralluma hesperidum*, *Caralluma venenosa* and *Pachycymbium decaisneanum.*

Algerian Sahara, Ahaggar: "Taïberou". [rrrho][zz77]
Mauritania: "Abouaïla". [rrrfn]

Caralluma venenosa and *Caralluma hesperidum* have now both been sunk into the species *Orbea decaisneana*. René Maire first reported and named *Caralluma venenosa* (botanical Latin = the poisonous Karallamu) in 1931 from plants found in the Hoggar Mountains region of Algeria. He reported that it was well known to the Tuareg and considered very poisonous. [rrrho] In 1933, Maire commented, presumably in the same place, that *Caralluma venenosa* was deadly poisonous but *Caralluma hesperidum* was edible like ***Apteranthes europaea*** though bitter and disagreeable. [rrrhn]

Algerian Sahara, Ahaggar. In 1968, reported as *Caralluma venenosa*, effective poison for killing humans. Only known to the nomads. Just tasting a little bit of the juice is sufficient to kill rapidly. [zz77] Mauritania. Violent poison. [rrrfn]

Senegal, extract of the aerial parts vs. mental problems and epilepsy. Plant sap is applied to teeth with caries but considered toxic. [zz203]

Mali, dried powdered stems as fish poison. [zz203] Niger, stems macerated in water and used as bait for guinea fowl. Mali. Twigs used as fish poison. Mentioned among 10 other fish poison species used in the same country - from a diverse range of plant families. [rrrfj]

Algeria, nomads poison bait vs. jackals. Sometimes used as criminal poison. [zz203] Fish poison and for poisoning bait in hunting birds and small mammals. [zz79]

Charm vs. evil. Supposed to be poisonous. [zz59]

***Orbea deflersiana* (Lavranos) Bruyns**
Also reported as *Caralluma deflersiana*.

Yemen: "urza". [zzznu]
central Abyan, Lawdar, Modyah & Al-Wadhee districts: "Uruz". [zzznu]
Mukeiras & Lawdar districts: "Khusmaa". [zzznu]

Whole plant vs. diabetes, wounds. [zz12a]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, stem juice applied vs. burns, eczema, wounds and diabetes (?). [zzznu] Yemen, Hajjah district, stem eaten vs. stomach ulcers. [zzzqv]

Orbea dummeri **(N.E. Br.) Bruyns**
Formerly *Stapelia dummeri* and *Caralluma dummeri*.

Northern Kenya,	Pokot:	"amanyan-pochepkono",
		"chesodokis",
	Turkana:	"lochen". [zzzwm]
Uganda, Baganda:	"Kaulira". [zz32]	

Kenya, Masai. The succulent shoots are chewed by women and children. [rrreb] Northern Kenya, Pokot. Medicinal and food use. [zzzwm]

Turkana. Medicinal and domestic use, not food. [zzzwm] East Africa, cultivated by many tribes "for obscure medicinal purposes", including areas where not found naturally. [zzzwn] Stem chewed vs. chest pains or decoction with fresh milk drunk. [zz159] Purgative. [zz241] Juice used medicinally vs. earache. [zz32] Fresh plant sap is squeezed on wounds to heal them. [zz203]

Chewed by father while cursing son. When making up each holds one end of a stem and cuts it. [zz159]

Orbea gerstneri **ssp.** ***gerstneri*** **(Letty) Bruyns**

Swaziland. Medicinal. [zz144]

Orbea huillensis **subsp.** ***huillensis*** **(Hiern) Bruyns**
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "!xó-táq'atáq'ábà" [zzzsq] See also ***Duvalia polita*** and ***Stapelia kwebensis***.

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi. Edible roasted in hot ash, some prefer roots and some the aerial stems. After it is cooked, often pounded with *Schinziophyton rautanenii* (Euphorbiaceae) nuts or *Eulophia* (Orchidaceae) corms. Preferred as food by the elderly or people with tooth problems. [zzzsq] Southern Africa, stem as vegetable. [zzznw]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi. Hunters seek out the plant because it is favoured by game (steenbok and duiker) but will not eat it themselves as it is regarded as bad luck. The bad luck of seeing the plant can be counteracted with sand. Settlements are not founded near these plants as they are a favourite food of elephants. [zzzsq]

Orbea knobelii **(E.Phillips) Bruyns**
Reported as *Caralluma krobelii*.

≠Kade San, G//ana: "dadaba".

Stalk as a supplementary food. [zz138] Southern Africa, whole plant for moisture, as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

***Orbea laticorona* (M.G.Gilbert) Plowes**
Reported as *Pachycymbium laticoronum* and *Angolluma laticorona*.

Ethiopia, Konso: "Parapaqa". [zzzfo]

Ethiopia, Konso, whole plants eaten except for fine roots, mixed with other food even when food reserves are good. Only eaten alone during food scarcity. Frequent consumption considered unhealthy. [zzzfo] South Ethiopia, Konso, stem edible, harvested in one dry season in January/February and the rainy season from April to June. [zzzqm]

***Orbea lugardii* (N.E.Br.) Bruyns**

Southern Africa, stems edible, lettuce-like flavour. [zzzow] S. Africa, stems eaten as a vegetable, tasting like lettuce. [zz211]

***Orbea luntii* (N.E.Br.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Caralluma luntii*.

Dhofar, Jibbali: "ēr 'awiyān".
Dhofari Arabic: plant – "ra 'wiyōn". [rrrbi]

Dhofar. Far less common than ***Desmidorchis quadrangula*** and ***Monolluma flava*** so does not make a significant contribution to nutrition. Herders relish the greener tips of the stems. Whole plant edible – flower, pod and stem. [rrrbi]

***Orbea lutea* ssp *lutea* (N.E.Br.) Bruyns**

Namibia, Khu Bushmen slightly roast the stems before eating but only as famine food. [zz203] Roots and young stems eaten. [zz211] Southern Africa, stem as snack. [zzznw]

Namibia, Owambo. Entire plant, extract vs. rabies. [zz203] S. Africa. Used vs. rabies.[zz95]

***Orbea lutea* subsp *vaga* (N.E.Br.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Orbeopsis lutea* subsp *vaga.*

Ndonga, Ovamboland: "ekata". [zzzsl]

Namibia, Ovambo, extract of whole plant vs. rabies. [zzzsl]

***Orbea maculata* (N.E.Br.) L.C. Leach**

Southern Africa, stems edible, lettuce-like flavour. [zzzow] S. Africa, stems eaten as a vegetable, tasting like lettuce. [zz211]

Orbea namaquensis **(N.E.Br.) L.C. Leach**
Afrikaans: "poesblom" (= pussy flower). [zzzow]

Namaqualand, stems edible, slightly bitter. Flowers edible. [zzzow] Namaqualand, eaten occasionally but very bitter. [zz211] Namibia, flowers edible. [zzzuz] Southern Africa, succulent stem and pods edible. [zzznx] Southern Africa, flower as snack. [zzznw]

Orbea paradoxa **(Verd.) L.C. Leach**

Swaziland. Medicinal. [zz144]

Orbea rogersii **(L. Bolus) Bruyns**
Reported as *Caralluma rogersii.*

Botswana, San: "dadaba". [zz93] See also ***Orbea knobelii***.

Southern Africa, stem as snack. [zzznw]

Botswana, boiled until water creamy white then drunk vs. venereal disease. Warm but don't boil, water given to help delayed labour or afterbirth. Throw plant away after success. Heat on red-hot coals and apply vs. toothache. [zz93] Swaziland. Medicinal. [zz144]

Body wash for good luck. [zz93, zz95]

Orbea semota **(N.E. Br.) L.C. Leach**
Reported as *Stapelia semota*.

Tanzania, juice from pounded stems vs. wounds, ulcers. [zz203] Used vs. wounds, ulcers. [zz95]

Orbea sprengeri **(Schweinf.) Bruyns**
Also reported as *Pachycymbium* sp. and *Huernia* spp.

Southern Ethiopia:	Konsogna:	"baqibaqa",
	Tigrigna:	"Ango Shahay". [zzzna]

Southern Ethiopia, Konso, three varieties of "baqibaqa" recognised.

> "Farmers explained that *baqibaqa* tastes relatively good without unpleasant side-effects when boiled and consumed. In Konso it is mostly eaten together with kurkufa (in Konso language), locally prepared sorghum balls." [zzzna]

Boiled whole until slippery. Preferred by pregnant women for their food cravings. Otherwise only eaten during food scarcity. Cultivated on stone walls that form the terraces in fields. [zzzna] Previously reported as *Huernia* spp. by the same source. [zzzmy]

Orbea tubiformis **(E.A.Bruce & P.R.O.Bally) Bruyns**
Reported as *Caralluma tubiformis.*

Northern Kenya, Pokot: "amanyan-pochepkono". [zzzwm]

Northern Kenya, Pokot. Food use. [zzzwm]

Orbea ubomboensis **(I. Verd.) Bruyns**

Swaziland. Medicinal. [zz144]

Orbea variegata **(L.) Haw.**

Southern Africa, stem, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

Orbea wissmannii **(O.Schwartz) Bruyns subsp. *wissmannii***

Yemen,	central Abyan,	Mukeiras district:	"Khusmaa",
		Lawdar district:	"Khuzaaul",
		Lawdar, Modyah & Al-Wadhee districts:	"Uruz". [zzznu]
	Southern:	"Uruz",	
		"Khusmaa". [zzzpv]	

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter. Sold in local markets. [zzzpv]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, fresh young stem pieces, chewed and swallowed vs. constipation, diabetes, stomach ulcer and as an antidote to food poisoning. Stem paste applied vs. wounds and burns. [zzznu]

Fresh, green young stem eaten from a homegrown plant. Inoffensive, boring, juicy. Not something I would be interested in eating again. [me, 2023]

Orbeopsis huillensis see ***Orbea huillensis***

Orbeopsis lutea subsp. *vaga* see ***Orbea lutea* subsp *vaga***

***Oreosparte celebica* Schltr. {Marsdenieae}**

Rudolf Schlechter collected plants on Mount Mahawu in Sulawesi in December 1909. The natives he employed used the thin stems of this plant to bind the bundles of plant specimens. Schlechter named the genus *Oreosparte* from the ancient Greek for "mountain" (ορεος) and (σπαρτη) "thread", “string” or “rope”. [zzzqn]

Orthanthera albida see ***Leptadenia albida***

Orthanthera jasminiflora see ***Leptadenia jasminiflora***

Orthanthera viminea see ***Leptadenia viminea***

***Orthosia angustifolia* (Turcz.) Liede & Meve {Asclepiadeae – Orthosiinae}**
Reported as *Metastelma angustifolium* Turcz. Not *Metastelma angustifolium* (Rusby) Morillo (*Irmischia angustifolia*) or *Metastelma angustifolium* Torr. (*Metastelma mexicanum*).

Mexico, Aguascalientes: “hierba de la hormiga” (= ant herb). [rrrep]
Tlaxcala, San Juan Quetzalcoapan: "cola de diablo" (= devil's tail). [zzzek]

Mexico, Aguascalientes. Plant vs. urinary infections and backache. [rrrep] Mexico, Tlaxcala, San Juan Quetzalcoapan, medicinal. [zzzek]

***Orthosia ellemanniae* (Morillo) Liede & Meve**
Ecuador, Loja province: "cola de caballo" (= horse tail). [zzzut]

Ecuador, Loja province, branches sometimes used in "horchata" a popular purple medicinal herb drink taken hot or cold with meals. Regarded as anti-inflammatory and diuretic. Collected from the wild by women. The purple/fuchsia colour of the horchata is from the young leaves and inflorescences of "sangorache", *Amaranthus hybridus*. [zzzut]

***Oxypetalum appendiculatum* Mart. {Asclepiadeae - Oxypetalinae}**
Argentina, Misiones, Guarani: "mbóichy ka’a" (viper herb). [zzzqf]

Argentina, Misiones, Guarani. Used in magic. [zzzqf]

***Oxypetalum balansae* Malme**

South America, Gran Chaco. Fruit eaten by Maká people. [fffaq]

Oxypetalum solanoides **Hook. & Arn.**
Argentina, Araucano-Pampas: "plan lonkó". [zzzpa]

Argentina, Araucano-Pampas, latex applied vs. eczema. [zzzpa]

Oxystelma esculentum **(L. f.) Sm. {Asclepiadeae – Asclepiadinae}**
Also reported as *Asclepias rosea* Roxb., not to be confused with *Asclepias rosea* Kunth. which is now called *Asclepias senecionifolia* M.E.Jones for which I didn't find any uses.

India, Tamil: "Ūcippālai" [zz80]
"Usepale" [zzzmb]
Hindi: "Dudhialata",
"Dudhi-ki-bel". [zz80]
Punjab: "gharot",
"ghaní". [zzzsk]
Marathi: "Dudhani". [zz80, zzzpk]
Telugu: "Dudhi pala". [zz80]
Nara region, Sindh: "Phulli". [zz179]
Sri Lanka, Tamil: "Kulappalai". [zzzds]
China: 尖槐藤 "jian huai teng". [zz141]
Yunnan, Yi: "Yanglaguo",
Bulang: "Gevei". [zz120]
Thailand: "Chamuk-pla-lai-dong",
"Chamuk-pla-lod",
"Phak-mai",
"Sa-uek". [zzzsm]
Northern, Akha: "aˬkuiˬmehˬla",
"aˇpahˬnui doˆ",
"yaˇmiˇjaˆg'aˬ". [zzzkm]
Laos: "Kiou kou mai". [zzzcv]

Linnæus included the phrase "Indigenis esculenta" (= the native peoples' food) in his description of this plant as *Periploca esculenta* in 1781. [zzztj] A plant collector called Johann Gerhard König had sent fine samples to Linnæus with the note:

> "the plant is esculent, and called *Usepale* in the Tamul language." [zzzmb]

Lance-like follicles are 3-6 cm long, and are edible. The plant is a good source of famine food in India. [zz80] Maharashtra, flowers, fruits, and leaves eaten in times of scarcity. [zzzpk] India, twin pods a favourite vegetable. [zzzff] Flowers and fruit eaten in Sindh. [zz179] Punjab. Fruit eaten. [zzzsk]

China, Yunnan, fruit frequently eaten with seasoning or salt. [zz120] Thailand, young branches as vegetable. [zzzsm] Indo-China. Fruit eaten. [zzzcv]

Northern Thailand, Akha, roots boiled and liquid given to new mothers to promote milk production. Also vs. leg weakness with inability to walk. [zzzkm] Indochina used as a gargle. Latex as dressing for ulcers. Root vs. jaundice. Sap with *Styrax benzoin*, *Citrus aurantifolia* and *Santalum album* juice drunk vs. cholera. The bark is mixed with vinegar and spices is smeared on the body. [zz177] Indo-China, decoction as gargle. Latex vs. ulcers. Roots vs. jaundice. [zzzcv]

Sri Lanka, used vs. rabies. [zzzds]

China, decoctions of all parts vs. cancer, menstrual disorders and traumatic injury. [zz141]

Herb used in Sindh as antiseptic, depurative and galactogogue. Latex antiperiodic. Root used vs. jaundice. Decoction as mouthwash vs. ulcers and sore throat. Whole plant decoction or milky juice used vs. ulcers. [zz179] Eastern India, Santals, used vs. enlarged spleen. [zzzlf] India, Maharashtra, Satpura Hills, Pawra tribe - two spoonfuls of root juice is given during morning for 10 days vs. asthma. [fffar] India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, flowers crushed with water taken internally three times a day for fifteen days vs. diabetes. Reported as the non-existent *Secamone esculentum* R.Br. with a common name "Kolapalai". Presumably this is confusion for *Sarcostemma esculentum* (L. f.) R.W. Holm which was a previous name for this plant. [zzztf]

Indo-China. Roots as animal food. [zzzcv]

P

***Pachycarpus* sp. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "||'hùìh". [zzzsq]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, carrot-shaped roots highly-prized for preparation of a tonic. Usually grated and added to food. [zzzsq]

***Pachycarpus appendiculatus* E. Mey.**
Swaziland: "lichogina". [zz144]

Swaziland. Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144]

***Pachycarpus asperifolius* Meisn.**
Sometimes reported as *Pachycarpus inconstans*.

Swaziland: "ishongwe elibomvu",
"ishonge elincane". [zz144]

Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw]

Swaziland, Vs. headaches, stomach complaints, hysteria. Charm vs. evil. [zz144] South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, medicinal "Gastrointestinal". "Nervous - snuffed or inhaled". "Headaches". "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

***Pachycarpus campanulatus* (Harv.) N.E.Br.**

Swaziland. Roots famine food for Zulus. [zz144]

***Pachycarpus concolor* E.Mey.**
Swaziland: "lichogina".

Swaziland, a vegetable but bitter. Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144] Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw]

***Pachycarpus decorus* N.E.Br.**
Swaziland: "lichogina". [zz144]

Swaziland. Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144]

***Pachycarpus galpinii* (Schltr.) N.E. Br.**
Swaziland: "lichogina". [zz144]

Swaziland. Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144]

***Pachycarpus grantii* (Oliv.) Bullock**
Congo, Kimbulu: "khambalau". [zz44]

Root soaked in water or crushed as a purgative for young stock animals. [zz44]

Pachycarpus inconstans see ***Pachycarpus asperifolius***

***Pachycarpus lineolatus* (Decne.) Bullock**
Southern Malawi: "Mkuta". [zz160]
Hausa: "rizgar-kurege" (= ground squirrel Hausa potato tuber). [zz59]
Democratic Republic of Congo, Tshiluba: "Katshi-komba". [zzzpz]

Ivory Coast (now Côte d'Ivoire), Ebriés (a part of the Akan), roots sometimes pounded and eaten cooked or raw, like cassava. Rhodesia, now Zambia and Zimbabwe. Tuberous roots as food and medicine. [zzzbr]

Dried, powdered root, one teaspoonful taken in tea or porridge as a potency medicine. Bitter taste unlike ***Mondia*** and ***Margaretta***. [zz160] Masai, to kill worms. Zambia, Eastern Province. Sap from heated wood applied to skin vs. itch. [zz241]

Tropical Africa, root as stomachic. [zz241] N. Nigeria, with local natron (sodium carbonate) vs. gastro-intestinal problems. Roots stomachic, weak cold infusion for new born infants. E. Africa, roots stomachic. [zzzbr]

Burkina Faso, Forêt Classee de Niangoloko. Leaves and flowers boiled together, decoction drunk three times a day for two days vs. diarrhoea. [rrraj] Democratic Republic of Congo, mashed root applied vs. vaginal lips stuck together. [zzzpz]

Zambia, Balovale (now in the town of Zambezi). Root as narcotic to trap wild birds for meat. [zz241]

***Pachycarpus natalensis* N.E.Br.**

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, medicinal "Gastrointestinal". No further details. [zzziz]

***Pachycarpus rigidus* E. Mey.**
Lesotho: "phōma-metsu",
"leshokhoana",
"poho-tšehla". [zzzrr]
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto:
"Phōma-metsu" (= "he who cuts the arrows or thorns),
"Leshokhoana" (the small Leshokhoa, see ***Xysmalobium undulatum***). [zzznz]

Southern Africa. Stem and leaf as vegetable. [zzznw][rrrcs]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau:

> "Used for curing colic pains (the natives compare the pains to arrows piercing the intestines). In spring the plant is used as a vegetable." [zzznz]

Used vs. stomach cramps. Powdered root vs. headaches, decoction vs. colds [zzzrr] Lesotho, edible. [zz65] Southern Sotho, poisonous and sometimes mistaken for edible asclepiads. Spring vegetable and colic remedy. Southern Africa, root vs. dysentery, colic. [zz241] Southern Africa, leaf, stem as vegetable. [zzznw]

***Pachycarpus robustus* (A. Rich.) Bullock**
Reported as *Asclepias robusta*.

East Africa. Aphrodisiac. [zz241]

***Pachycarpus scaber* (Harv.) N.E. Br.**
Swaziland: "lichogina". [zz144]

Swaziland. Used vs. dogs that steal food. Protects vs. evil. [zz144]

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

***Pachycarpus schinzianus* (Schltr.) N.E. Br.**

Southern Africa, root used as ***Xysmalobium undulatum*** which it resembles in looks and action. Root vs. dropsy, dysentery and snakebite. Manyika, plant for conception and vs. syphilis. South African Dutch, root vs. piles. [zz241]

Pachycarpus spurius **(N.E. Br.) Bullock**

Tanzania, tuber eaten by men to improve fertility. Pounded leaves mixed with water for provoking milk. Stems for twine and rope. [zz175]

Pachycarpus stelliceps **N.E.Br.**

Swaziland. Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144]

Pachycarpus transvaalensis **(Schltr.) N.E. Br.**
Swaziland: "lichogina". [zz144]

Swaziland. Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144]

Pachycarpus validus **N.E.Br.**

S. Africa, Eastern Transvaal (now Mpumalanga) and Potchefstroom district (now Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality). Root latex vigorous purgative. [zz241]

Pachycarpus vexillaris **E.Mey.**

Southern Africa. Undetermined part and leaf as unknown food use. [zzznw][rrrcs]

Pachycymbium sp. see ***Orbea sprengeri***

Pachycymbium decaisneanum see ***Orbea decaisneana***

Pachycymbium laticoronum see ***Orbea laticorona***

Pachypodium bispinosum **A. DC. {Apocynaceae – Apocynoideae}**
Pachypodium are in the Apocynaceae but are not asclepiads. These two species share the name of "Kambaroo" or "Kambroo" with ***Brachystelma*** and ***Fockea*** tubers.

S. Africa, Karoo. Edible tuber. [zz248] Other parts may be poisonous? [me]

Pachypodium succulentum **Steud. {Apocynaceae – Apocynoideae}**

S. Africa, Karoo. Edible tuber. [zz248] Other parts may be poisonous? [me]

Karoo. Root piece soaked in lukewarm water, bitter infusion drunk vs. stomach ulcers.[zz247]

Parapodium costatum **E. Mey. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Lesotho: "Sehamela-poli". [zzzrr]
Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Sehamela" (= "he who milks for the goat"). [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "Eaten as a vegetable. Said to be much liked by goats." [zzznz] Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw] Lesotho, Mareu district. Pot herb. [zzzrp]

Lesotho, Mareu district. Roots vs. HIV, internal and external tumours, phlegm. [zzzrp]

Lesotho: dried roots as protective charm against bad omens. [zzzrr]

Parquetina nigrescens see **Cryptolepis nigrescens**

Pectinaria **spp. {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**

South Africa, stems edible when turgid after rains, lettuce-like flavour. [zzzow]

Pectinaria articulata **Haw.**
Reported as *Stapelia articulata.*

South Africa. Reported as eaten raw by Khoi-khoi (Hottentots in the source) by Francis Masson in 1796. [zz152] Eaten by native Africans and as pickles by settlers. [zz241] South Africa, Roggeveld, reported in 1795 as *Stapelia articulata repens*, eaten by Khoi-khoi and pickled like cucumbers by the colonists. [zz230] Reported as still used as pickles by farmers in Roggeveld in 1932. [zz150] Southern Africa, stem as snack and savoury preserve. [zzznw]

Pectinaria articulata **subsp.** ***asperiflora*** **(N.E.Br.) Bruyns**
Reported as *Pectinaria asperiflora*.

South Africa. Eaten as pickles. [zz241] Reported to be used as pickles by farmers in the Karoo of Laingsburg in 1932. [zz150]

Pectinaria asperiflora see ***Pectinaria articulata*** **subsp.** ***asperiflora***

Pectinaria maughanii **(R.A.Dyer) Bruyns**
S. Africa: "ghaap". [zz24a] See also various species of ***Hoodia***.

Eaten as a vegetable and is an appetite suppressant. [zz24a] Southern Africa, stem as snack and appetite suppressant. [zzznw]

Pentanura khasiana see ***Decalepis khasiana***

Pentarrhinum abyssinicum see ***Cynanchum ethiopicum***

Pentarrhinum insipidum see ***Cynanchum insipidum***

Pentarrhinum somaliense see ***Cynanchum somaliense***

Pentasacme caudatum **Wall. ex Wight {Ceropegieae - Leptadeniinae}**
Sometimes spelt *Pentasachme.*

China: "shi luo mo". [zz141]
石蘿藦 "Shiluomo",
Maonan: "ruoŋ²saŋ³nut⁸ ". [fffaj]
Thailand: "Chueak-thao", [zzzsm]
"Kham-yan". [zzzsm]

China, all parts vs. hepatitis, nephritis, conjunctivitis, sore throat, and bronchitis. [zz141] South China, North Guangxi, Maonan people - Ground wild whole plant decoction orally vs. rheumatism, ostealgia, traumatic injury and ascites due to cirrhosis. Pounded fresh part applied vs. snake bite, herpes zoster. [fffaj]

Pentasacme championii see ***Pentasacme caudatum***

Pentatropis capensis **(L. f.) Bullock {Asclepiadeae - Tylophorinae}**
Previously also *Pentatropis microphylla*.

India, Maharashtra: "Shingrota",
"Parparam". [zzzpk]
Andhra Pradesh: "Kukka Bachali". [zzzsg]

Punjab, tubers eaten in spring. [zzzcv]

Punjab, flowers medicinal. [zzzcv] Roots used for a cooling and alterative effect in gonorrhoea. [zzzff] Maharashtra, unnamed part used as alterative and refrigerant. [zzzpk] India, Andhra Pradesh, slightly warmed leaf juice as nasal drops vs. body pain and cold. [zzzsg]

Pentatropis cynanchoides see ***Pentatropis nivalis***

Pentatropis kempeana see ***Vincetoxicum lineare***

Pentatropis linearis see ***Vincetoxicum lineare***

Pentatropis microphylla see ***Pentatropis capensis***

Pentatropis nivalis **(J.F. Gmel.) D.V. Field & J.R.I. Wood**
Sometimes reported as *Pentatropis cynanchoides* and *Pentatropis spiralis.*

Punjab: Flowers in markets as "ark pushpí",
"ambarvel",
"van verí". [zzzsk]
Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, Brahui/Balochi: "Aichk". [zzzcp]
Iran, Hormozgan province: "shahm". [zzzta]
Dhofar, Jibbali: "škelfān". [rrrbi]
Dhofari Arabic: "škelwān". [rrrbi]
Northern Kenya, Turkana: "elagama". [zzzwm]

Punjab in 1869. Tubers peeled and eaten, being sweet and filling. The author considered this might be confusion with ***Ceropegia*** species. [zzzsk] Pakistan, tubers eaten. [zzzfg] Ethiopia, Iran, NW India (Pakistan?), follicles (fruit) eaten. [zzzfd]

Dhofar – edible pods, becoming fibrous over 2 inches (5 cm) long. Considered a great delicacy in drier areas with a monotonous diet, being sought enthusiastically. Usually grows through thorny *Acacia* bushes, making collection painful and difficult. [rrrbi]

Punjab in 1869. Flowers sold in markets for medicinal use. [zzzsk] Pakistan. Flowers medicinal. [zzzfg]

Roots used for a cooling and alterative effect in gonorrhoea. [zzzff] Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, leaves soaked in hot milk, the liquid, gently expressed, as wash vs. sore eyes. [zzzcp] Iran, Hormozgan province, decoction of root as astringent, tonic, cooling and vs. gonorrhoea. [zzzta]

Northern Kenya, Turkana, domestic use, not food. [zzzwm]

Pentatropis spiralis see ***Pentatropis nivalis***

Pentopetia alba see ***Pentopetia elastica***

Pentopetia **sp. {Periplocoideae}**
Malagasy, Bezanozano and Merina: "Vahilava" (= long liana)

Madagascar, decoction of leafy twigs vs. back pain, half a glass twice a day.

Pentopetia androsaemifolia **Decne.**

Madagascar, Sihanaka: "tandrokampora" (= circumcision horn). [zzzrd]
Betsileo and Merina: "tandrokosy" (= goat-horn from the shape of the fruit - used of several plants, see ***Pentopetia cotoneaster***). [zzzrd, fffao]

Madagascar. Used as a drink vs. fatigue in circumcision rites. [zzzrd] Madagascar, stem used in some versions of "mangidy", a popular herbal drink sold in markets. Said to be used vs. asthenia, hepatitis, hyperglycemia, stomach-ache and syphilis. [zzzlx]

Madagascar. Roots emetic, diuretic and diaphoretic. Small dose as a tonic. Stem bark infusion as emetic and cathartic. Leaf diuretic. Root vs. poisoning. Depending on dose may be emetic, diuretic, febrifuge, tonic, antipyretic and toxic. [fffao]

Pentopetia cotoneaster **Decne.**

Malagasy, Sakalava: "Vohovelo" (= reverse living, as it can cure or kill). [zzzrd]
Bezanozano, Sihanaka and Tsimihety: "tandrokosilahy" (= "male goat-horns" from the shape of the fruit). [zzzrd]

Madagascar, very active medicinal, excellent vs. small circulatory insufficiencies. [zzzrd]

Pentopetia elastica **Jum. & H. Perrier**

Also reported as *Pentopetia alba*.

Malagasy, Sakalava: "Bokaka",
"Sanasy". [zzzrd]

Madagascar. Decoction reputed as tonic and promoting bile. Used vs. liver disease. [zzzrd]

Madagascar, plant gives Mavokeli rubber. [zz237] Only very poor quality rubber, added by collectors to better rubber to increase the weight for sale. [zzzrd]

Pentopetia grevei **(Baill.) Venter**

Also reported as *Pentopetia elastica, Gonocrypta grevei* or *Kompitsia elastica*.

Madagascar: "Kompitso",
"Mavokely". [fffao]

Madagascar, Antandroy – Watery tubers used to make a refreshing liquid. In times of famine, the pulp ground coarsely and cooked with milk. [fffan]

Madagascar, Mahafaly - Incision gives a good rubber when well coagulated. However, under the name *Pentopetia elastica* it gives a mediocre latex which is mixed with that of *Landolphia myrtifolia* (Apocynaceae, Rauvolfioideae) - not an asclepiad. [fffao]

Pergularia daemia **(Forssk.) Chiov. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Also reported as *Dæmia angolensis, Dæmia extensa* and *Pergularia extensa*.

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "xá'ábá". [zzzsq]
≠Kade San, G//ana: "murahari". [zz138]
Swaziland: "umdzandzabuka". [zz144]
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "donzwamutuku ". [zzzov]
Afrikaans: "bobbejaankambro" (= baboon *Fockea edulis*). [zzzov]
Botswana: "loshwe". [zz91]
Nigeria, Igbo: "Utazi",
Yoruba: "teji".[zz170]
Northern Uganda, Acholi language: "Lurono". [rrraa]
Benin, Adja: "Gbahunkeki",
"Gbahounkeki" (same name is given to *Ipomoea triloba* L., frequently used as a leafy vegetable). [zzzob]
Ifè and Idatcha: "Ogbonfufu". [zzzob]
Kenya, Kikuyu: "ka-Riaria". [zz76]
Pokot: "chemokol",
"okonuo",
"kutitany",
"ketpochooh",
Marakwet: "kipche". [zzzwm]
Mozambique, Massingir: "furana". [zzzfn]
Ethiopia: Tigrinia: "tennab". [zz78]
Kaffa: "koroda". [zz78]
Arabic: "dhraoba". [zz78]
Somali: "corongoiai". [zz78]
Ethiopia: "Etse-hareg". [zzzlb]
Dhofar, Jibbali: "érém",
"wérém".
Dhofari Arabic: "ġeygeh". [rrrbi]
Jibbali: inedible, toxic fruit - " 'agereyz " (= testicles, from the twin fruit). [rrrbi]
Bangladesh: "Dhudhilota",
"Dudhilata",
"Chagulbati". [zzzsh]
India, Sanskrit: "Uttamarani",
"Kurutakah",
"Visanika",
"Kakajangha". [zz80]
Maharashtra: "Utarni". [zzzpk]
Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal: "Jithupaku". [rrrbb]
Karnataka State: "kontagesoppu". [zzzbi]
Tamil Nadu: "veeliparuthi". [zz63]
Maruthamalai Hills: "Balaparuthi". [zzzuo]
Sri Lanka: "madihagu", [zz109]
Sinhala: "Médahangu",
Tamil: "Uttamakam",
"Veliparatti". [zzzds]

Kalahari, stalk and leaf rarely as food for the ≠Kade San. [zz138] Leaves eaten cooked in southern Africa. [zz91] Southern Africa, whole plant, stem, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw] Southern Africa, Pedi (Northern Sotho), leaf as pot herb. [zz241]

Botswana and Zululand leaves eaten as wild spinach. [zzzgt]

Nigeria, flavour for soups and yam porridge. [zz170] Northern Uganda, Acholi sub-region. Root eaten raw in all seasons. [rrraa] Ethiopia, tubers, leaves and fruits eaten. [zzzlb] Kenya, Mbeere division, Embu district: young, hollow stems cooked as a vegetable in times of famine. Leaves also eaten. [zz76] Ethiopia, root as food. [zz78] Northern Kenya, Pokot, food use. [zzzwm]

Senegambia, in 1844 Decaisne wrote [zzzly]:

> "The boiled leaves are prepared for food eaten by the natives of Senegambia reports the collector Jean-Pierre Heudelot."

In the original Latin:

> "Folia cocta pro cibo præparari edulia incolæ Senegamb. narrabant cl. Heudelot."

Benin, Adja, Ifè and Idatcha, fresh young leaves and flowers consumed rarely in the rainy season. [zzzob]

Maharashtra, leaves and flowers eaten. [zzzpk]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, root decoction, vapour and bodywash vs. disease caused by eating meat from an animal killed by a caracal. The same disease can be prevented by chewing the root and spitting it on the chest. Particularly used for children who are more prone to the disease. Root decoction or chewed vs. depression ("heart problems caused by others") by causing vomiting to get rid of a build-up of "foam" enveloping the heart. [zzzsq] South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, leaf and latex medicinal. [zzzov] Namib desert, Nama, powdered roasted root or leaf applied vs. wounds. Root decoction drunk vs. venereal disease and vein problems. Latex added to drinking water to kill any animal. [zzzgt]

Benin, Adja, Ifè and Idatcha, bitter leaves used in cough treatments. [zzzob] Leaf emetic, worm-killing. Plant juice expectorant and vs. asthma. Plant applied vs. rheumatism. Ghana, leaf added to soup for immediately after childbirth. [zz241]

Swaziland, roots for arthritis, asthma & venereal disease. Blood pressure. [zz144] Leaf water extract anthelmintic and expectorant vs. cough, catarrh. Stem and root bark extract vs. fever and diarrhoea in infants. [zz170] Root inserted into cut vs. snakebite. [zz224] Mozambique, Massingir, antiemetic and vs. cough. [zzzfn] Latex can cause pain and inflammation on contact with skin or eyes, stomach cramps and diarrhoea when taken internally. [zz79] Northern Kenya, Pokot and Marakwet, medicinal use. [zzzwm]

Dhofar, latex vs. skin diseases and circular sores, only in adults and livestock as the treatment is painful and alarming. Eye contact must be avoided. [rrrbi]

Tamil Nadu, fresh leaves boiled, vapour inhaled vs. headache. [zz107] Leaf paste for lactation. [zz63] Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills, leaf juice orally vs. asthma. Leaf decoction vs. insect bites. [zzzuo] India, Tamil Nadu, the paste of the leaf with black pepper is applied on forehead for the relief of headache. The decoction of the leaves is used in treatment of asthma and snake bite. [zz14a] India, root used in folk medicine vs. liver disease. [zz80, zzzbd] India, root vs. snakebite. [zz241]

India, Karnataka State, leaf paste externally vs. alopecia. [zzzbi] Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Leaves vs. asthma, cardiac disorders. [rrrbb] India, used in folk medicine and Ayurveda. Plant used vs. vatha, convulsion, asthma, poisoning, cough, biliousness and sore eyes. The root used vs. mental disorders, anaemia, leprosy and piles. Leaf paste mixed with castor oil applied on joints vs. inflammation, liver complaints and spleen enlargement. The juice of the leaves is given vs. asthma and rheumatic swelling in combination with lime or ginger. Oil preparation given in rheumatism, amenorrhoea, and dysmenorrhoea. Plant said to have stomachic, laxative and diuretic properties and used for antifertility, wound healing, antidiabetic, hepatoprotective, cardiovascular effects and antibacterial activities. [zzzpf]

Bangladesh, plant anthelmintic, laxative, antipyretic, expectorant and emetic. Plant vs. cough and infantile diarrhoea. Plant extract vs. uterine and menstrual troubles and to facilitate parturition. Leaf juice vs. asthmatic affections and infantile diarrhoea. Leaf juice with lime and ginger applied vs. rheumatic swellings. Fresh leaf pulp are as a stimulating poultice vs. carbuncle. Root bark as anthelmintic. Root bark mixed with cow's milk as a purgative in rheumatic cases. [zzzsh]

Sri Lanka, used as purgative and vs. asthma, diarrhoea, worms, catarrh, sore eyes, rheumatic swellings, snakebite and fish poisoning. [zz109] Sri Lanka, emetic, expectorant in bronchitis, etc. [zzzds]

East Africa and India, plant made into fishing line. [zz241] Fine and strong, a very pretty fibre. [zzzco] Captain Meadows Taylor was awarded a medal for the stem fibre of the "commonest weed in the Deccan" at the Madras Exhibition of 1855. [zzzoc]

Central African Republic. Whole plant used as fish poison. ***Anisopus mannii*** also mentioned among 63 other fish poison species used in the same country - from a hugely diverse range of plant families. [rrrfj] Central Africa, fish poison. [zz241]

Dhofar. Plant crushed to paste and rubbed into freshly-removed skins to remove hairs before tanning. Folded over, rolled up and buried for a time determined by the type of skin: kid and gazelle quickest, camel and mature cow for longer. Left too long it gets too thin and can make holes. When dug up, the hair is easily scraped off. [rrrbi] Arabia, loosens hair in tanning process for hides. [zz79]

Dhofar, latex can be used as an adhesive, with care. [rrrbi]

3.67% hydrocarbon/rubber by fresh weight. [zzzar]

Pergularia daemia **(Forssk.) Chiov. subsp. *daemia***

Namibia, Herero: "eriko",
Kwanyama, Ovamboland: "okanongo",
Damara/Nama: "!gubib",
German: "Herzblatt-Liane" (= heartleaf-vine). [zzzsl]

Namibia, Bergdamara, root vs. gonorrhoea. Root dried and powdered and rubbed into minute scratches over the affected area vs. muscle and joint pains. Namibia, Khoisan, boiled aerial parts to promote milk production. [zzzsl]

***Pergularia daemia* subsp. *garipensis* (E.Mey.) Goyder**
Reported as *Pergularia daemia* var. *leiocarpa*.

Namibia, Herero: "eriko",
Himba: "eumbanyanda",
Kwanyama, Ovamboland: "okanati",
"okanongo",
Damara/Nama: "!gubib". [zzzsl]

Toxic. Namibia, tea of bitter root or powdered root rubbed into minute scratches on the mons pubis or perineum (causing inflammation lasting five or six days) vs. gonorrhoea. Namibia, east of Eenhana, entire plant hot water extract on its own or with *Oxygonum dregeanum* subsp. *canescens* (Polygonaceae) orally or as enema vs. general body pains (malaria). Namibia, Kakaoland, latex used to draw out thorns or wood splinters lodged in skin. Namibia, Karibib, Damara, boiled fruit or pounded root decoction vs. venereal disease. Root as diuretic. Potion from crushed root vs. blackwater fever. Namibia, Nama, root pounded with milk or water and latex rubbed on skin vs. syphilis. Namibia, Grootfontein, Khoisan, root lightly roasted, dried and powdered and rubbed into minute scratches on the chest vs. tuberculosis, over the affected area vs. painful joints and leg cramps. Namibia, Ovambos, Kwanyama, latex vs. wounds and lacerations. [zzzsl]

Pergularia extensa see ***Pergularia daemia***

Pergularia roylei see ***Marsdenia roylei***

***Pergularia tomentosa* L.**
India, Sanskrit: “Uttaravaruni”,
Hindi: “Utranajutuka”. [zzzwu]
Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, Brahui: "Wal",
Balochi: "Xohi Wal",
"Shiter". [zzzcp]
Iran, Bushehr: "làbashir",
"shàtàr" [zzzwj]
Hormozgan province: "keshtu",
"helayah",
"labashir". [zzzta]
Western Sahara, "oum el jelud",
"muchlud". [zz84]
Sahrawi refugees: "ghalqa",
"umm el-jlud". [zzzoa]
nomads: "ghalgha",
"ghalqa". [zzzps]
Morocco, Tafilalet: "sollakha". [zzzeu]
Tata Province: "Tazirt",
"Laghlaga" (perhaps "al-aghlaga"). [zzziu]
Yemen, central Abyan governate, Mukeiras & Lawdar districts: "Falaqah",
Al-Wadhee district: "Halqah". [zzznu]

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: " 'irihem". [rrrbd]
Algeria, Central Sahara, Tamachek: "tachkat",
Arabic: "sellakha". [rrrhn]
Tassili N'ajjer, Touareg Tamahaq: "tachkat". [zzzsb]
Arabic: "relka". [zzzsb]
Arabic: "ghoulga",
"demya",
"leben el hamir". [rrrax]
Targui (Tuareg): "tashkat",
"dellakal",
"tellakh",
"sellaha". [rrrax]
Dhofar, Jibbali: "érém",
"wérém". [rrrbi]
Dhofari Arabic: "ġeygeh". [rrrbi]
Jibbali: inedible, toxic fruit - " 'agereyz " (= testicles, from the twin fruit). [rrrbi]
Saudi Arabia, Bedouin: "ghalgah". [zzzwh]
Al-Rass province: "Gholfa". [zzzsi]
Egypt: "Ghalqa". [zzzkt]
Eastern Desert, Khushmaan: "ghaylga". [rrrbh]
Bischarin: "ha'atoay". [rrrbh]

Morocco, Tafilalet, latex vs. abscesses, furuncles. Diluted latex vs. toothache. Aerial parts decoction vs. bronchitis. Leaf applied vs. snake and scorpion bites.[zzzeu] Western Sahara, Sahrawi refugees, powdered dried leaf mixed with water and applied vs snakebite, scorpion sting and boils. [zzzoa] Morocco, Tata Province, aerial parts as poultice vs. dermatitis, burns, skin allergy and to remove hair. Raw latex applied vs. abscesses, boils. Diluted latex as mouthwash vs. toothache. Aerial parts oral decoction to provoke abortion and vs. worms. Root powder orally vs. influenza, bronchitis, constipation. Leaf and flower smoke inhalation vs. angina, ringworm. [zzziu] Morocco, Tissint. Leaf and stem decoction vs. bronchitis and tuberculosis. Forbidden for pregnant women and should be taken with great care. [rrrax]

Algeria, Central Sahara. In 1933, reported as used vs. bronchitis and haemoptysis (spitting blood). Fresh root pounded and cooked with goat meat. After eating this stew, the patient wraps up in woollen blankets and sweats it out. [rrrhn] Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer, pounded root internally vs. chills, bronchitis and constipation. Aerial parts decoction internally vs. worms and as abortive. Aerial parts decoction poultice vs. skin diseases (dermatosis, boils, allergies) and as depilatory. [zzzsb] Algeria. Plant parts collected in Spring in North Algerian Sahara, any time after rain in the central Algerian Sahara. It is used for bronchitis and tuberculosis, and for snake bites. Corrosive white latex and may severely harm the skin. [rrrax]

Arabia? Latex vs. skin sores and other skin disorders. Plant extract as purgative and expectorant. [zzzwi] Saudi Arabia, Al-Rass province, whole herb vs. skin diseases. [zzzsi]

Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, juice said to be damaging to skin. Reported as *Daemia cordata*. [zzzcp] Iran, Bushehr, vs. burns and skin damage. [zzzwj] Iran, Hormozgan province, fresh leaf and powder vs. wounds and scorpion sting. [zzzta] India, plant used as laxative, antipyretic and expectorant and vs. jaundice, infantile diarrhoea and malarial intermittent fevers. [zzzwu]

Western Sahara, nomads, after cuts for extraction of venom from a horned viper (local name: lefa) bite, caustic latex applied to "absorb" venom. Said to have been learnt from observing local lizards. [zzzps] Western Sahara, Sahrawi refugees, latex applied on a bandage to eliminate warts and skin grains. [zzzoa] Latex from *Pergularia tomentosa* has significant protease (enzymes that break down protein) activity [zzzwk] which may explain these uses and in preparing leather.

Yemen, central Abyan governate, stem latex smeared topically vs. boils and wounds. [zzznu] Libya, Mediterranean coast. Medicinal plant. [rrrhi] Egypt, Eastern Desert, one recommendation to insert a fresh piece of root in the anus and twist until painful bleeding occurred vs. piles. [zzzkt] The Khushmaan in that area knew of the use vs. piles but were "unfamiliar with the technique described by" reference [zzzkt]. They do not use the plant for medicine or food. The Bischarin in the same area know the plant induces vomiting and diarrhoea. [rrrbh]

Socotra. Caustic latex dripped into ulcers and chronic sores. Latex on leaf and stuck on like a plaster, vs. ulcers, sores, boils, swellings. Latex applied vs. bleeding from wounds and pain from bee stings. Latex to soften skin around a thorn to ease removal. Weeping sores cut and pierced with a thorn or needle and then smeared with latex. Latex applied vs. itching and scabies. Leaves and stems scorched by fire until blackened, powdered and added to water, as wash vs. wounds and lacerations. [rrrbd]

Dhofar, latex vs. skin diseases and circular sores, only in adults and livestock as the treatment is painful and alarming. Eye contact must be avoided. [rrrbi]

Ethiopia. Afar regional state, Yalo Woreda, root as a body wash vs. evil eye. Leaf vs. snakebite by oral, nasal and ear. [zzzic]

Algeria, Central Sahara. In 1933, reported that the plant was pounded and the paste spread on animal skins to remove hair. After a few hours the hair falls out easily when scraped. [rrrhn] Spanish Sahara. Plant caustic, said to be used for preparing animal skins. (Published in 1948, the author seems to copy the previous author a lot.) [zz84] Saudi Arabia, Bedouin, in earlier times used for dehairing skins before tanning. Modern informants not sure how it was used but thought the milky latex removed the hairs. North Africa, Tuareg, for dehairing hides before tanning. Bundle of plants dipped in hot water, rubbed over the inner side of the hide. Within a day the hairs are loose enough to pluck off. [zzzwh]

Socotra. Leaves and green stems crushed with a little water and rubbed into freshly-removed skins to make a very thin leather and remove hairs. Checked every ten minutes in case it gets too thin as it can make holes. Never used when making items that need strength but for decorative woven belts, dagger sheaths and light satchels. [rrrbd] Dhofar. Plant crushed to paste and rubbed into freshly-removed skins to remove hairs before tanning. Folded over, rolled up and buried for a time determined by the type of skin: kid and gazelle quickest, camel and mature cow for longer. Left too long it gets too thin and can make holes. When dug up, the hair is easily scraped off. [rrrbi]

Oman, plant used to remove hair in preparing animal skins. [rrrbi]

Dhofar, latex can be used as an adhesive, with care. [rrrbi]

Pergularia viridiflora see ***Marsdenia viridiflora***

Periglossum angustifolium **Decne. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Sehoètè mohlaka" (= "marsh carrot"),
"Sehoètè Ntsiuli" (= something "carrot"). [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The roots of this plant and of all species of *Schizoglossum* are eaten, especially by children." [zzznz]

Periploca angustifolia **Labill. {Periplocoideae}**
This species from mainland Spain, Sicily, Crete and across all of North Africa is sometimes reported as ***Periploca laevigata*** because it has been called *Periploca laevigata* subsp. *angustifolia* (Labill.) Markgr. though *Periploca laevigata* subsp. *laevigata* Aiton is found only in the Canary Islands.

Morocco, Boujdour Province: "Elhallabe". [rrrgq]
Guelmim Province: "Lhallab". [rrrgs]
Tafilalet: "l-hellab". [zzzeu]
Tata Province: "Asllif". [zzziu]
Tunisia, Arabic: "hallab". [rrrax]
Southern, Ouled Dabbeb: "Holleb". [rrray]
Libya, Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar, Wadi Alkuf: "Helaab". [rrrba]
Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer, Touareg Tamahaq: "sellouf",
Arabic: "hallaba". [zzzsb]
Western Sahara, "halab",
"hallab". [zz84]
nomads: "hal-lab". [zzzps]
Spain and Canary Islands: "cornical", [zzzdd, zzzex]
"cornicabra", (= goat horn),
"salguilla". [zzzde]
Lampedusa: "albero della seta" (= silk tree). [zzzsc]

Spain, Almeria, Cabo de Gata, flowers sucked for the sweet nectar in spring. [zzzdd]
Morocco, Guelmim Province. Flower raw as a snack. [rrrgs]

Tunisia, root powder used to prepare a tea or "soft drink". [zzzqz] Southern Tunisia, Ouled Dabbeb. Root bark is appreciated when added to black tea. The authors surveyed the area from 2014 to 2019. This same use had also been reported by Edouard Le Floc'h in 1983 (I haven't seen that paper). [rrray] Like many other members of the subfamily Periplocoideae, the roots of Tunisian *Periploca angustifolia* contain the fragrant 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (4-methoxysalicylaldehyde), an isomer of vanillin with a characteristic pleasant taste and smell. For which I am now coining the name mondillin, see ***Mondia whitei***. [zzzqz][rrrec]

Morocco, Tata Province, decoction of aerial parts and seed applied vs. rheumatic pains. Root poultice vs. rheumatoid arthritis. Leaf poultice vs. snakebite and scorpion sting. Decoction of root orally vs. hypertension. Decoction of aerial parts and seed orally vs. bronchitis. Decoction of fruit and root orally to provoke abortion and lower blood sugar. [zzziu] Morocco, Boujdour Province. Leaves and flowers as decoction or infusion orally vs. stomach and intestinal pain. [rrrgq] Morocco, Guelmim Province. Leaf decoction vs. abdominal pain. [rrrgs] Morocco, Tafilalet, fruit decoction orally vs. diabetes. Fruit applied vs. rheumatoid arthritis. Root decoction orally vs. hypertension. [zzzeu]

Tunisia, root used for medicinal properties. [zzzqz] Southern Tunisia, Ouled Dabbeb. Leaf decoction orally as hypotensive. [rrray]

Libya, Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar. Used vs. ulcers, diarrhoea, diabetes. [rrraz] Libya, Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar, Wadi Alkuf. Unnamed part vs. anguish. [rrrba][rrrgz] Libya, Mediterranean coast. In 2009/2010, root powder used vs. dyspepsia, constipation and hepatosplenomegaly. [rrrhi]

North Africa (Tunisia?). Leaf decoction, bath vs. rheumatism. Root bark decoction, 50g in a litre of water, hipbath three times a day for a week vs haemorrhoids. Root bark decoction, 50g in a litre of water, three glasses a day drunk before meals vs. gastric ulcer, two glasses a day drunk vs. sugar diabetes, with no mention of complications. Tunisia, Ababsa region, the resin (latex?) is used as a masticatory. When burned, this resin "gives off a pleasant smell that country people appreciate". [rrrax]

Algeria, Central Sahara. In 1933, reported as used as an abortive and vs. rheumatism. [rrrhn] Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer. In 2006, aerial parts and seed decoction externally vs. rheumatisms and various pains. Aerial parts and seed decoction internally vs. diabetes and as abortive. [zzzsb]

Western Sahara, nomads, milk from camels that have grazed on hal-lab given to children to protect them from disease. [zzzps] Spanish Sahara (now Western Sahara), seeds are used for medicine, and unspecified parts for abortions and vs. rheumatism. [zz84] North Africa, seed decoction as painkiller vs. rheumatism. [zzzde]

Spain, Almeria, stem and leaf infusion, wash vs. wounds in humans and animals. [zzzde]

From Lampedusa, Stefanio Sommier reported in 1905 that when goats, sheep and cattle ate the leaves the quality and quantity of milk was improved. He also mentioned that:

> "... the inhabitants of Lampedusa call it "silk tree" and collect the hair (mane/tail of comet/foliage) of its seeds to make pillows/cushions"

In the original Italian:

> "... gli abitanti di Lampedusa la chiamano « albero della seta » e raccolgono le chiome dei suoi semi per farne dei guanciali" [zzzsc]

***Periploca aphylla* Decne.**

Pakistan: "bata" [zz8a],
"barrarra",
"barre". [zz217]
Afghan refugees: "barara". [rrrgo]
Buner District, Chagharzai Valley: "Da ghar gilo". [zzzph]
Kaniguram, Ormuri & Pathan peoples: "Bararra". [rrrgk]
Makerwal and Gulla Khell: "Batta". [zzzub]
Mohmand Agency: "Bararha". [zzzwx]
Punjab: "báta",
"barrarra",
"barre". [zzzsk]
Pakistan: Sialkot province: "batta",
"barri". [zzztb]
Swat: "Barara". [zzzoo]
Thakht-e-Sulaiman Hills: "Barrar".[rrrck]
Balochistan (south): "gĭshtăr". [zzzcq]
Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, Balochi: "Gishtar",
Brahui: "Hum". [zzzcp]
Iran, Ilam province: "Kholf". [zzzix]
Dhofar, Jibbali: " 'órem",
"gīrśōt". [rrrbi]
Arabic: "handabub". [zz79]
Oman, north: "ḥandabub". [rrrbi]

John Dalton Hooker reported the flowers as edible in 1885, quoting John Ellerton Stocks. [rrrhp] Stocks returned to England in 1854 and died in August of the same year, at the age of 34. [rrrhq] I found two herbarium sheets at Kew for Collector number 589, Scinde (Sindh, Pakistan). From the collection number it seems likely to have been collected 1851. Stocks noted on both sheets:

> "Fragrant flowers sweet to the
> taste & eaten" [rrrhr]

On an extra label stuck onto one of the sheets, Stocks noted:

> "<u>Fragrant</u> flowers
> eaten by natives —
> Taste like raisins
> Used for cordage" [rrrhs]

Usually leafless and succulent. Pakistan, flower buds sometimes eaten. [zz14a] Pakistan, Salt Range. Reported in 2007, fragrant flowers eaten, taste like raisins. [zz8a] Flower buds sweet, eaten raw or cooked as a vegetable. [zz217] Punjab. Buds eaten raw or cooked as a vegetable. Considered to help wounds heal when eaten. [zzzsk] Central portion of the flower sweet and edible. [zzzff] North-West Pakistan, Thakht-e-Sulaiman Hills. Collected by children from waste land in May. Fresh green fruit and young stems chewed eaten, sweet sap swallowed.[rrrck]

Dhofar. Flower buds and centres of flowers eaten. Pods not eaten. [rrrbi] United Arab Emirates, flower buds edible. [zz243]

Pakistan, Kaniguram, Ormuri & Pathan peoples. Latex as chewing gum. [rrrgk] Pakistan, Afghan refugees. Gum chewed. Foraged from the mountains in Afghanistan. [rrrgo] Mohmand Agency. Fresh parts of plant used by local kids as chewing gum. [zzzwx]

Dhofar. Twigs and stalks fire-scorched and powdered used as snuff on its own or with powdered tobacco. [rrrbi] Pakistan, Mohmand Agency. Plant burnt to ash for mixing with tobacco to make snuff. [zzzwx]

Arabia, plant extract or plant crushed and applied vs. skin disorders and to reduce swellings and reduce pain from swellings.

Pakistan, Afghan refugees. Stem bark decoction "mixed with mother's milk as an appetite suppressant in children". Foraged from the mountains in Pakistan. [rrrgo]

Pakistan, Balochistan, bark as purgative, latex vs. skin tumours and swellings. [zz79] Pakistan, southern Balochistan, poultice of flower buds ground to a paste applied three or four times over two days vs. pimples and pus-filled sores in the nose and eyelid margins. [zzzcq] Northern Pakistan, Makerwal and Gulla Khell, latex vs. skin ailments and healing of wounds. Plant decoction vs. fever and headache. [zzzub] North Pakistan, Swat, stem and fruit latex applied vs. swellings. Stem latex vs. fungal dermatitis in livestock. [zzzoo] Pakistan, Salt Range, powdered branches and flowers, 2-4g twice daily vs. constipation and stomach ulcer. Latex vs. skin infections, tumours and swellings. 500g branches boiled in 2 lites of water for two hours, 2 teaspoonfuls daily vs. constipation. [zz8a] Pakistan, Sialkot province, roots stimulant, vs. constipation, urticaria, tumours. [zzztb] Pakistan, Buner District, Chagharzai Valley, whole plant, bark, milky juice as stomachic and purgative. [zzzph] Pakistan, juice, half tea cup twice daily vs. constipation. Ash or latex applied vs. swellings. [zzzfg] Sindh, latex medicinal. [zz14a]

Dhofar. Roots vs. snakebite. [rrrbi]

Iran, Ilam province, leaf and flower as anti-inflammatory. [zzzix]

Oman, placed in pools then removed to take the leeches out, [zz243] as in Dhofar. [rrrbi]

Sindh, fibres for ropes. [zz14a] Pakistan, Sindh, resists damage by water so used for ropes and bands for wells. [zzzco] Kew has an Economic Botany specimen of the fibre and rope from the Museum at Ajmer, Rajasthan, donated at the Paris Exhibition of 1900. [rrrht]

Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, excellent camel fodder. [zzzcp] United Arab Emirates, commonly grazed by goats. [zz243] Dhofar, considered filling fodder for livestock but not nutritious, does not promote lactation or development of the animals. Important fodder during dry season. Whole plant for animal pens. [rrrbd, rrrbi]

India? Stems as Soma, used in Soma sacrifice rituals. [zzzff]

Oman, north. Roots used for protection vs. jinn, the evil spirits. [rrrbi]

***Periploca calophylla* (Wight) Falc.**
This plant is exclusively South Asian in origin. Not to be confused with ***Cryptolepis calophylla*** from Africa, illegitimately named *Periploca calophylla* (Baill.) Roberty. See also ***Periploca forrestii*** which has sometimes been included in this species.

Nepal, Lamjung District, Dura: "Shikhari lahara". [rrrgl]
Pokhara: "Shikari lahara". [rrrgm]
China: 青蛇藤 "qing she teng" (= green snake vine). [zz141]
China, Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains: “Fengteng”. [fffai]

Nepal, Pokhara. Stem used vs. the category of injuries/sprains/fractures. [rrrgm] Nepal, Lamjung District. Whole plant chewed paste vs. fracture, joint pain, diabetes, gastritis, high blood pressure. Whole plant paste to treat tiger/lion wounds in cattle. This one reported as ***Periploca graeca*** but that plant is not native to Nepal. [rrrgl]

China, stem vs. snakebite, lumbago and traumatic injury. [zz141] China, Yunnan, Jingdong, Wuliang Mountains - Leaf, whole plant, stem are "heat-clearing and detoxifying", reducing inflammation and used vs. rheumatism. [fffai]

Periploca canariensis see **Cryptolepis nigrescens**

Periploca canescens see **Cryptolepis nigrescens**

***Periploca chevalieri* Browicz**
Cape Verde Islands: "Corcabra". [rrrhm]

Cape Verde Islands. Formerly more widespread on the islands and found in lower-lying places but harvested so intensively for tanning goat hides that the plants were eliminated from some areas. [rrrhk]

***Periploca forrestii* Schltr.**
This plant is similar botanically to ***Periploca calophylla*** and has been included by some botanists in that species. [rrrhk]

China: "hei long gu" (= black dragon bone). [zz141]
黑龍骨 "Heilonggu”,
Maonan: “mei^{5}ʒa^{2}nam^{5}”. [fffaj]

China, Guangxi, vs. rheumatic joint pain and traumatic injury. [zz141] China, rootbark vs. rheumatoid arthritis and wounds but cardiac toxicity in high doses. Interchangeable medicinally with ***Periploca sepium***. [zzzgd] South China, North Guangxi, Maonan people - Whole wild plant made into medicinal liquor used vs. rheumatic arthritis. [fffaj]

***Periploca gracilis* Boiss.**
Reported as *Cyprinia gracilis*. [zzzey]

Cyprus. Used vs. rheumatism. [zzzey]

***Periploca graeca* L.**
This plant gave its name to the genus but not from ancient Greek, as might be assumed. Two plants were received at the Botanical Gardens of Padua (Republic of Venice) by Luigi Anguillara in 1549. In his 1561 work *Semplici*, Anguillara said the Greek climbing plants were called "Periplocada" (περίπλοκαδα?) meaning "twining plants". [rrrhk] In modern Greek, περίπλοκος appears to means "complicated, intricate" - περί meaning "about" or "around" and πλοκω meaning "entangled".

Greece: "Periplocada". [rrrhk]
"periplocarda". [zz2a]
Spain: "periploca". [zzzde]

The posthumous and much expanded 1644 edition of the “Cruydt-boeck” (Herb-Book) by Rembert Dodoens detailed the medicinal use of this plant in Europe. [rrrdw] It was not mentioned in the first edition published in 1554.[rrrdv]

I will leave it to experts in historical Dutch medical terminology to translate those details. See also ***Cynanchum acutum***, ***Vincetoxicum hirundinaria*** and ***Vincetoxicum nigrum***.

Greece, Mount Pelion in Thessaly (where Asklepios was taught the art of healing by the centaur Cheiron). Regarded as toxic but used occasionally as medicine. Leaf and stem decoction used as a heart stimulant. [zz2a]

Iran. Literature review has: "Bark, root, seed" used as "juice, tincture" to "strengthen the heart" and vs. dyspnoea. Original reference not seen. [rrrgn]

Acrid juice, stimulating vs. ulcers. [zzzcs]

Spain, thread is made from the plant. [zzzde]

Latex toxic due to cardiac glycosides, periplocosides. [zzzde] Eduard Lehmann investigated the chemistry of *Periploca graeca* stem bark in 1897. He could not isolate what he called the “bitter almond odour” (true bitter almond flavour would be benzaldehyde, as found in marzipan). Lehmann was more concerned with getting rid of the odour so he could purify the digitalin-like toxin periplocin. [rrrdz]

A literature review on the *Periploca* genus states that 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde was found in the bark of *Periploca graeca* in 1935. I can't find the 1935 paper online. It is not in my local university library. [rrrea]

The Oxford English Dictionary explains the name "Wolfwort" for the genus *Periploca* as due to the juice being used to poison wolves. The first "wolfwort" they mention is *Aconitum* (Ranunculaceae), the famous wolfsbane from film and literature. [rrrhe] That OED entry has not changed since it was first published in 1928. [rrrhf] They do not show their working, as the only reference they give is a quote from a 1765 book on botany that simply uses the name with different adjectives for each of the four species mentioned. *Periploca graeca* is "Lanced Wolfwort". No mention of any uses or any poisoning. [rrrhd]

Many of the asclepiads and apocynoids have from ancient Greek times been given names such as *Apocynum* - "dog-offer", cynoctonum - "dog-killer", *Cynanchum* - "dog-strangler" and these have become modern names like dogbane and mataperros. Often for different plants than those that had the ancient names. Determining which was the original canine bane or whether all of them were used is impossible now. [me]

In 1841, Dr CH Schultz helpfully narrowed down the use of *Periploca graeca* to poison wolves to somewhere within the largest continent on Earth.

> "Contains a sharp, poisonous milky juice, which is used to kill wolves in some parts of Asia."

In the original German:

> "Enthält scharfen giftigen Milchsaft, mit dem man in einigen Gegenden Asiens die Wölfe tödtet."

Turin. In 1848, it was reported that *Periploca graeca* was more used for poisoning dogs and wolves than for any medicine. In the original (Torinese?) Italian:

> "Esse sono però risguardate piuttosto come veleno onde uccidere i cani ed i lupi, che quale medicamento." [rrrhc]

In 1892, an American reported that *Periploca graeca* was used in Greece as a wolf poison. [zzzcs]

I bought two plants of *Periploca graeca* and repotted them. The disturbance to the roots provoked a strong smell of 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (for which I have just coined the name mondillin, see ***Mondia whitei***), found in many roots in the subfamily Periplocoideae. The smell was similar when I pruned the stems. [me, 2026]

Periploca hydaspidis **Falc**.
North-West Pakistan, Thakht-e-Sulaiman Hills: "Khwaza waley".[rrrck]

North-West Pakistan, Thakht-e-Sulaiman Hills. In May, fruit eaten immediately on collection by children, from barren land. [rrrck]

Periploca khasiana see ***Decalepis khasiana***

Periploca laevigata **Aiton**

Spain and Canary Islands:	"cornical". [zzzdd, zzzex, zzzpe]
	"cornicabra" (= goat horn),
	"salguilla". [zzzde]
Canary Islands, Tenerife:	"cuernillo" (= little horn). [zzzpe]

Canary Islands, Tenerife, in the past the fruits were eaten like a sweet/candy. [zzzpe]

Canary Islands, Tenerife, the liquid of the stem serves as an antidote to the poisonous and irritant latex of local spurges - *Euphorbia canariensis, Euphorbia broussonetii* and *Euphorbia regis-jubae*. Leaf infusion is anti-inflammatory. Root decoction used as a purge. [zzzpe] Canary Islands, root laxative, purgative. [zzzex]

The roots of a cultivated plant of *Periploca laevigata,* seed from Tenerife in the Canary Island, had the characteristic smell of 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde, which I am now calling mondillin. See ***Mondia whitei***. Unfortunately, I could not get it to flower. [me, 2024]

Periploca laevigata subsp. *angustifolia* see ***Periploca angustifolia***

Periploca linearifolia **Quart.-Dill. & A.Rich.**

Kenya,	Kajiado, Narok and Nairobi counties:		"Osinandei". [rrrgt]
	Kericho County, Kipsigis:		"sinendet". [rrrad]
	central, Kikuyu, Thika:		"Muimbathunu". [zzzol]
	Marakwet:		"Sinende". [zzztl]
			"sinindet". [zzzwm]
	Mau Forest, Ogiek:		"Senendet". [rrraw]
	Meru District:		"muimba iguru". [zzzay]
	Nandi County, Tindiret:		"sinendet". [rrram]
	Nandi Hills:		"sinendet". [rrrak]
Ethiopia,	Amhara Region, Mecha Wereda		"moider". [zzzif]
	Amhara Region, North Shewa Zone, Ankober District:		"Imbouayder". [zzzoq]
	Northern, Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District:		"Moder". [zzzpd]
	Southeastern, Mana Angetu District:		"Sarkutal". [zzzjb]
	South Welo (Wollo),	Oromiffa:	"Wezer Hada",
		Amharic:	"Wezere Hareg". [zzzmw]
Tanzania, Ngorongoro District, Batemi:			"mte wa masaba",
			"mkangabana". [zzzjo]

Kenya, Masai. “A pleasantly flavoured form of tea is made from the roots.” See another periplocoid ***Mondia whitei*** for a similar pleasantly-flavoured root used by the Masai for tea. [rrreb] Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Mecha Wereda, root used for traditional perfumes. [zzzif]

Kenya, Kericho County, Kipsigis. Sacred plant. Used during ceremonies, weddings and initiations. Symbol of blessing and only for clean and holy uses, not for mundane uses. Not to be used in ceremonies where someone is to be cursed. At a circumcision, the female relatives would be garlanded with *sinendet*. The *mabwaita* (family altar or prayer tree) is made by pushing a branch of a sacred tree into the ground and then binding other species of sacred branches together with stems of *Pergularia linearifolia*. 15,000 Kipsigis formed an investment group in 1979 and called it after *sinendet*. They bought a tea estate and in 2006 built Sinendet Towers, renting out multiple offices for banks, hotels, doctors, etc. [rrrad] [zzzwm] Kenya, Marakwet, fruit/leaves as ceremonial plant. [zzztl] Kenya, Nandi Hills. Sinendet used to signify successful completion of the circumcision process during that important ritual. Sinendet chosen by the community because of its fast regeneration. [rrrak] Kenya, Mau Forest, Ogiek. Plant made into a big ring, taken to the river by the person to be circumcised. [rrraw] Kenya. Stems traded in markets in Nairobi, Kajiado and Narok counties. [rrrgt]

Kenya, Meru District, decoction of rootbark or in soup vs. chest pain and fevers. [zzzay] Northern Kenya, Marakwet, medicinal use. [zzzwm] Kenya, Marakwet. Fruit crushed and soaked in water for use as a pesticide. [zzztl] Central Kenya, Kikuyu, Thika, used vs. malaria. [zzzol] Kenya, Nandi County, Tindiret. Roots boiled, milk then added vs. abdominal/colic pains and infertility in women and vs. ulcers. [rrram] Kenya, Mau Forest, Ogiek. 200g of washed root cooked in 1 litre of water. Liquid decanted, 250ml drunk vs. colds. About 250g of roots cooked in mutton to add flavour to the soup. This soup produces vitality in men. Leaves dried, pounded to powder and applied vs. wounds caused by shingles (Herpes zoster). Powder mixed with 30ml of honey and eaten twice daily vs. oral thrush. [rrraw]

Ethiopia. Crushed leaves mixed with water applied vs. mastitis. [rrrgr] Ethiopia, South Welo (Wollo), Cheffa Area, leaf concoction externally vs. tropical ulcers in humans. [zzzmw] Ethiopia, Amhara Region, North Shewa Zone, Ankober District, fresh root paste applied to skin vs. haemorrhage. Fresh root extract anally vs. haemorrhoids. [zzzoq] Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Mecha Wereda, dried root powdered, mixed with milk orally vs. "Likifit", an undefined disease. [zzzif]

Tanzania, Ngorongoro District, Batemi, roots chewed and juice boiled or decoction drunk vs. stomachache. [zzzjo]

Ethiopia, Amhara Region, Mecha Wereda. Dried root on red hot charcoal to fumigate cattle vs. "devil sickness". [zzzif] Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, fresh or dried stem and leaves crushed and tied on vs. sores in livestock. [zzzjb] Kenya, Akamba. Latex from roots used in a mixture to increase milk production in cows. [rrrad][rrrhk]

Northern Ethiopia, Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District, dry root is burnt in fire and smoke fumigates vs. evil spirits. [zzzpd]

Tanzania & Kenya. Rope is made from the stem bark of young, woody shoots. The fibres are easily separated from the bark. Congo. Fishing nets made from the silky fibres. [rrrhk]

"*Periploca mexicoensis* P.T.Li"
The name is not placed, according to Kew Gardens. Several databases have it as the new name for *Periploca viridiflora* Sessé & Moc., the name given for the plant in the quote below. As none of the genus *Periploca* nor the subfamily Periplocoideae are found in the Americas, I assume it is not a *Periploca*. For example, the plant Sessé and Mociño mentioned as *Periploca parvifolia* is now called *Orthosia pubescens*. [zzzmg]

Between 1788 and 1804 Martin Sessé and José Mariano Mociño collected plants that would later be described in the *Flora Mexicana* [zzzme] and *Plantae Novae Hispaniae* [zzzmf]. They observed:

> "Observations. The entire plant is the stinkiest and produces milk. The natives call the follicles *Tlalayotes* and eat them preserved with sugar."

In the original Latin:

> "Obseruatio. Tota planta fœtidissima et lactescens. Indiginæ folliculos *Tlalayotes* dicunt sacharo conditos comedunt." [zzzme]

Periploca nigrescens see ***Cryptolepis nigrescens***

***Periploca sepium* Bunge**
China: "běi wǔ jiā pí" (= north "five additions bark" or north *Eleutherococcus*). [rrrbz]
"xiāng jiā pí" (= fragrant additions bark). [rrrbz]
"xiang jia pi". [zzzat]
"wujiapi". [zz177]
槓柳 "gang liu" [zz141][rrrha] (= stave willow).
"Kang-liu". [zzzkr]
Northeast, Taihang Mountains: "yang tao",
"wu bei zi". [rrrha]
Inner Mongolia, Arhorchin Mongol Herdsmen: "nohain shegebur". [zzzju]

In 1884, it was reported that Abbé Armand David had stated that the Chinese eat the flowers. In the original French:

> "Les Chinois mangent les fleurs. (M. l'abbé Arm. David.)" [rrrhl]

Inner Mongolia, Arhorchin Mongol Herdsmen, young shoots and leaves together as a vegetable. [zzzju] China, Taihang Mountains. Tender leaves boiled, eaten as salad. [rrrha]

China, root collected in spring or autumn. Beaten with a club to separate the rootbark which is dried and inner, woody part which is thrown away. Aromatic and intensely bitter. Used vs. rheumatic pain, lumbago, impotence. In wine strengthens bones and tendons but is very poisonous and can kill. Insecticide. Cooked with pork or in wine as tonic. [zz177]

China, rootbark vs. rheumatic arthritis, children's weakness in sinews and bones, infantile wilting pattern causing slowness to walk, oedema and inhibited urination. [zzzat] China, root and stem bark vs. rheumatoid arthritis, traumatic injury. [zz141] China, rootbark vs. rheumatoid arthritis, wounds but cardiac toxicity in high doses. Interchangeable with ***Periploca forrestii***. [zzzgd]

China, Northeast, Taihang Mountains. Bark decoction orally "for promoting muscles and bones, detumescence and draining dampness, analgesia and anti-tumor effect, dispelling wind, diuresis, treating edema of lower limbs, palpitation and short of breath, rheumatalgia, soreness and weakness of waist and knees, rheumatoid arthritis, dysuria". One of the top five most used plants in the area. [rrrha]

One Materia Medica of Chinese herbal medicine stated that *Periploca sepium* is very toxic due to the content of cardiac glycosides (like digitalis and oleander) that affect the heart. They suggested that it should only be used with very special care in alcoholic preparations due to the likelihood of the patient deciding to have more than the recommended dose. In China, wǔ jiā pí liquor is a very popular alcoholic tonic and common as an export. At least six species of *Eleutherococcus* are used to make it in various parts of China. However, it has been estimated that 80% of wǔ jiā pí in Chinese commerce is actually “xiāng jiā pí” or “běi wǔ jiā pí” - *Periploca sepium*. [rrrbz] Commonly, and sometimes dangerously, substituted for Siberian Ginseng (*Eleutherococcus senticosus*, Araliaceae), [zzzcy] which is called cì wǔ jiā (= spiny five additions) in Chinese. [rrrbz]

China, white, soft, lustrous and highly elastic fibres used in Liaoning, Hopeh, Shantung and Kiangsu to produce textiles. [zzzkr]

North China, root vs. *Pieris rapae* (small cabbage white butterfly) and other vegetable pests and *Aphis gossypii.* lime or sodium hydroxide added to solution or mixed with powdered tobacco. Also vs. maggots, mosquito larvae. [zzzks]

Essential oil of root bark contains 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde as the major component; extracted by hydrodistillation gave 0.15% of essential oil containing 78.8% [zzzgq], steam distillation gave 0.10% with 87.8% [zzzgr]. Another report confirmed steam distillation giving 0.2% of essential oil containing 78.8% of this compound. [rrrec] For other plants with 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (para-methoxysalicylaldehyde, a positional isomer of vanillin for which I have just coined the name mondillin) see ***Mondia whitei***.

The essential oil varies widely between 14 accessions of *Periploca sepium* rootbark from different areas. The mondillin content varies from 21.4% (Taian city, Shandong) to 54.6% (Jiaozuo City, Henan). In two others the level of mondillin is 51.2% (Lucheng, Changzhi City and Yuci, Jinzhong City – both in Shanxi). The next most abundant compound is 2,3-dimethyl phenol (none found in one sample) at 10.08% (Taian city, Shandong) to 37.52% in the one case where it was higher than mondillin at 22.53% (Jixian, Tianjin), though it is at almost comparable levels in 3 other cases. 2-amylfuran occurs (none found in one sample) at 2.02% to 10.6% (Jixian, Tianjin). [rrref]

Content of toxic cardenolides (and other compounds) also varies significantly according to geographical origin. The same study of 14 accessions found the least of the three cardenolides tested in *Periploca sepium* rootbark from Feixian, Linyi city, Shandong with only 2.68 µg/g and the most found in rootbark from Jixian, Tianjin with 168.21 µg/g. [rrref]

The essential oil of *Periploca sepium* root was sold as Silk Vine essential oil for a short time by Hermitage Oils in 2015, At the time Hermitage Oils were still located in Hull. For some reason they have relocated to Tuscany. They have been trying to source more of equal quality ever since but as of 2020 have not found any. The oil has a distinct rooty smell but is dominanted by the sweet spice smell of mondillin, also found in *Hemidesmus indicus* root. Very pleasant. I still have a few drops left in the bottle in 2020 and it is still very fragrant. [me2020] Hermitage have sold more now but it was all stated as diluted in a carrier compound. Perhaps the older ones were as well, mondillin is a solid. [me, 2025]

Periploca viridiflora Kostel. see ***Cryptolepis dubia***
Periploca viridiflora Sessé & Moc. see "***Periploca mexicoensis"***

***Periploca visciformis* (Vatke) K.Schum.**
Also called *Leptadenia ephedriformis*, *Socotora visciformis* and *Socotora aphylla*.

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: " 'artah" also used of *Crotalaria strigulosa* (Fabaceae), "khartah", "ftakh", "shifetehan", "qer'ish". More commonly *Jasminum fluminense* (Oleaceae) or *Turraea socotrana* (Meliaceae). [rrrbd]
Dhofar, Jibbali: "eyrṭít", "érṣít". [rrrbi]

Socotra and Dhofar. New green growth or the whole plant crushed and left to steep in water. Cotton fishing equipment added and left until it is the desired shade of reddish-brown. This strengthens and darkens the cotton to camouflage it from the fish when deployed in the sea. Protects ropes and nets from rotting. Also for dying imported cotton. The underbark of the mature branches can be twisted and rolled into thread and twine for temporary repairs to fishing and camel tackle. [rrrbd, rrrbi]

Socotra and Dhofar. Dead plants stored for tinder and firelighters. [rrrbi]

Socotra. The viscera of goats and sheep that have fed on it get an unpleasant taste. [rrrbd] Keeps it green colour so added to less-appealing fodder to tempt animals to eat it. Used as fodder on long jouneys to keep animals going. [rrrbi]

Pervillaea decaryi **(Choux) Klack. {Secamonoideae}**

Madagascar, woolly substance from fruits used as amadou (tinder usually from a fungus). Reported as *Toxocarpus decaryi*. [zz237]

Pervillaea tomentosa **Decne.**
Reported as *Toxocarpus tomentosus*.

Malagasy, Sakalava: "vahemalandy" (= silky/cottony liana - long, silky hairs on fruit),
"voantsifaka",
"voantsifitra" (= sifaka-fruit, because the downy fruits resemble the fur of sifaka lemurs of the genus *Propithecus*). [zzzrd]

Madagascar, plant toxic in all its parts. Floss from the seeds is collected and used as a tinder for the tinder-box and lighting fires. [zzzrd] Madagascar, used as ***Pervillaea decaryi***, presumably meaning the use as tinder. [zz237] Madagascar. Sakalaves in the northwest use the seed fluff as tinder. [fffao]

Pervillaea venenata **(Baill.) Klack.**
Reported as *Menabea venenata*.

Malagasy, Mahafaly and Tandroy: "fiofio",
Sakalava: "kisonompa" (= altered "kisompa", *Cerbera manghas*),
"tangembavy" (= female "tangena", *Cerbera manghas*). [zzzrd]
“Tangembavy”,
“Tangena”. [fffao]
Madagascar: "kisompavavy" (= female kisompa). [zz94]
"Kisopo",
"Tanghin sakalave". [zzzev]
"Kisompa",
"Kisonompa",
"Ksopa",
"Kisopa",
“Ksopo”. [fffao]
“Tanghin femelle”,
“Tangena Sakalavea". [fffao]

Madagascar, principally the tubers used as an ordeal poison. Only grows on the limestone mountains of the west coast. Tubers sold as far away as Tananarive. Probably the plant known as "fiofiofio" to the Merina and used to make an amulet called *ody basy* (= gun charm), for protection from gunshot wounds by diverting bullets. [zzzrd] Madagascar, arrow poison and formerly used as an ordeal poison in certain ceremonies. [zz188] Root used as ordeal poison [zz237] in Menabé and to the north where more usual ordeal poison, kisompa or tangena (*Cerbera manghas* L., Apocynaceae), does not grow. [zz94]

Madagascar, the roots of this plant were the ordeal poison for the Sakalava in the West as the Tanghina seeds (*Cerbera manghas*) were for the Hova in the East. Considered the more dangerous poison. [zzzev]

Madagascar. Small amounts of root grated in water vs. maladies of the stomach and liver. [fffao] Madagascar. Still sold in markets for herbal medicine. Very low doses of the very bitter root vs. backache, rib pain, venereal disease. [zzzev]

***Petalostelma roberti* (S.Moore) Liede & Meve {Asclepiadeae - Metastelmatinae}**

Argentina, Gran Chaco, Wichí & Toba-Pilagá, dried root kept secretly in the clothes in a bag as a love charm to attract the desired person. Regarded as personally gifted by a supernatural entity when the rare, beautiful and highly-prized plant is found. The root has its own perfume but may be augmented with perfumed soap, talcum powder and colognes. [zzzqi]

***Philibertia gilliesii* Hook. & Arn. {Asclepiadeae - Oxypetalinae}**
Sometimes reported as *Philibertia gracilis.*

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní: "Supua käti". [zzzep]
Guarani: "Aru-cumaé". [zzzql]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní. See also ***Funastrum gracile*** and ***Marsdenia* sp.** Aerial parts well-mashed and applied to temples and head vs. headache. Latex from cut stem as eyedrops vs. conjunctivitis. Latex applied vs. sores, wounds. [zzzep] Bolivia, Guarani, leaf decoction vs. snakebite. Has protein-digesting enzymes and is anti-inflammatory [zzzql]

***Philibertia globiflora* Goyder**

Bolivian Andes, Apillampa. Used as medicine. [zzzqj]

Philibertia gracilis see ***Philibertia gilliesii***

Philibertia grandiflora see ***Philibertia gilliesii***

Philibertia heterophylla see ***Funastrum heterophyllum***

Philibertia pannosa see ***Funastrum pannosum***

Philibertia parviflora* (Malme) Goyder var. *parviflora

Bolivian Andes, Apillampa. Used as medicine. [zzzqj]

***Philibertia suberecta* Goyder**

Bolivian Andes, Apillampa. Used as medicine. [zzzqj]

***Philibertia woodii* H.A. Keller & Goyder**

On the 6th of January 2022, Kew Gardens published their traditional annual press release highlighting the 10 top plant species named in the preceding year by Kew scientists or their collaborators. I was very excited to read the following entry, at number 8.

> **"8. A Bolivian periwinkle with edible fruits and potential medicinal value…**
>
> This vivid and unusual periwinkle, *Philibertia woodii*, from the Andean valleys in Bolivia, was collected in the wild and named new to science by Argentinian botanist Hector Keller and RBG Kew scientist Dr David Goyder.
>
> The new bright, yellow-flowered plant has egg-shaped kiwi-like fruits that are edible when roasted, and its vivid and attractive flowers are popular with butterflies. Many species in the periwinkle family are medicinal so it is hoped the compounds of this species will be analysed for their potential.
>
> Keller and Goyder named the new species for John Wood, a botanist, to honour his dedication to training Bolivian botanists and supporting botanical expeditions in Bolivia for many decades." [zzzqy]

I read the paper describing and naming the new species and found no mention of the fruit being edible. I found that one of the authors of that paper, David S Goyder, had tweeted the news item and so I asked him to clarify. His helpful reply was short and to the point:

> "It's by analogy. Fruits of close relatives such as Araujia odorata are used to make a local jam" [zzzqx]

The fruit is not known to be edible. There are many species in various genera of Oxypetalinae whose fruit are definitely recorded as edible. As can be seen from entries in this book, *Asclepias* has species that are poisonous and others that are edible. *Asclepias syriaca* has some varieties that are bitter and others sweet. One species now lumped in *Orbea decaisneana* has been said to be virulently poisonous and another to be edible.

This press release was picked up by news outlets across the world. The false "fact" that the fruit is edible is the one thing that will crop up in any future search online for this species. I hope it is never introduced into horticulture. I am annoyed by the necessity of writing more on this species than on all the others of this genus, despite those others having actual known uses by humans.

Physostelma wallichii see ***Hoya wallichii***

Piaranthus decipiens **(N.E.Br.) Bruyns {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Southern Africa. Fruit as snack and savoury preserve. [zzznw]

Polystemma cordifolium **(A.Gray) McDonnell & Fishbein {Asclepiadeae – Gonolobinae}**
Reported as *Rothrockia cordifolia*, also called *Matelea cordifolia*.

Mexico, Baja California: "Talayote". [zzzeb]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Baja California, young pods eaten raw. [zzzeb]

Polystemma pilosum **(Benth.) Morillo**
Reported as *Matelea pilosa*.

Mexico, Nayarit. “ja’muet”. [rrrep]

Mexico, Nayarit. Fruit eaten roasted. [rrrep]

Pseudolithos **spp. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**
Somalia: "Dinah" (= tortoise). [zzzos]

Somalia. Initially confused by PRO Bally with reports of the edibility of the similarly squat, grey, fat asclepiad ***White-sloanea crassa***, which is eaten. *Pseudolithos* were found to be "as bitter as quinine" and when checked with locals were reported as never eaten. [zzzos]

Pycnoneurum junciforme see ***Cynanchum junciforme***

Pycnostelma chinense see ***Vincetoxicum bungei***

Q

Quaqua armata **(N.E.Br.) Bruyns {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Southern Africa, stem and fruit as snack. [zzznw]

Quaqua incarnata **(L.f.) Bruyns**
S. Africa: "ghaap". [zz95]

S. Africa, Piketberg, reported in 1795 as *Stapelia incarnata*, eaten by Khoi-khoi, after peeling off the edges and prickles.[zz230] Stems in brandy vs. stomach ailments and convulsions. [zz95] Southern Africa, stem as snack and thirst suppressant. [zzznw]

Quaqua mammillaris **(L.) Bruyns**
Sometimes reported as *Caralluma mammillaris*.

Southern west Africa, Khoi: "Aroena",
"Oruna". [rrrab]

South Africa, both traditional and modern use. Thorns removed and stems eaten raw or sliced and added to a salad. Two 10 cm lengths enough to suppress thirst and hunger for a day, though more can be eaten. Should not be eaten by pregnant women. In a vegetable stew called *stoof* by the Khoi-khoin. Can be roasted in the oven giving an interesting texture. Eaten vs. peptic ulceration. [rrrab] Fresh stems vs. peptic ulcers, hangovers and drunkenness. A small piece of stem is sufficient to suppress hunger and thirst for a day. Can be eaten as a fresh vegetable, but not by pregnant women. [zz205] Southern Africa, succulent stem edible. [zzznx] Southern Africa, stem, flower and fruit as snack. Stem as appetite and thirst suppressant. [zzznw]

I cut 15cm from a 19cm single stem. Just under 12 months from seed. 30.15g. Thorns removed but got dusty on a bucket lid, so not an accurate weight - 230mg. Texture like a dense, chewy cucumber (or a young shoot of ***Apteranthes joannis***). Juicy enough. Taste mildly acidic (harvested 3 hours after artificial dawn) and mildly bitter. No trace of the liquoricey notes of sweet Hoodia. Nice but not remarkable. No particular aftertaste when drinking water. Finished chewing 17:45 - I did not feel any thirst or hunger for four hours, when I decided I should probably drink some water and cook something. [me]

R

***Raphionacme* sp. {Periplocoideae}**

Southern Malawi, "Mwanawamphepo", used vs. difficult childbirth. [zz160]

Zulu, vs. scrofula. [zz241]

Raphionacme abyssinica see ***Schlechterella abyssinica***

***Raphionacme angolensis* (Baill.) N.E.Br.**
Reported as *Raphionacme kubangensis*.

DR Congo, Upemba National Park. Herbarium specimen from 1947 stated “Toxic”. [rrrcd]

***Raphionacme arabica* A.G. Mill. & Biagi**

Dhofar,	Jibbali:	"eṣtaḥ",
	Dhofari Arabic:	"istāh". [rrrbi]
Dhofar/SE Yemen, Jibbalī:		“estah”,
		“sutah”,
		“sedah”. [rrrcv]

Dhofar. Becoming rare. Tuber to the size of a large sweet potato. The whole underground rootstock edible after peeling. Preferred even to ***Cibirhiza dhofarensis***, sweeter and with a particularly persistent sweet aftertaste. Leaves, flowers, fruit and stems all also edible. Beautiful girls or women compared to the peeled root. Crying children lulled with a rhyme about this plant and ***Ceropegia bulbosa***:

> “child, child,
> leave off that noise!
> Your mother has gone off
> to find rōb and eṣtaḥ!” [rrrbi]

Arabian Peninsula, tubers eaten, as snack food by herders. [zz79] Oman, Dhofar, all parts of the plant are edible but it is prized for its sweet-tasting tuber, peeled and eaten raw. [zzzav] Dhofar/SE Yemen. Fleshy rootstock highly prized for its sweet taste. [rrrcv] See also **"*Raphionacme velutina*"**.

Raphionacme baguirmiensis see ***Raphionacme brownii***

Raphionacme bingeri see ***Raphionacme splendens***

Raphionacme brownii **Scott-Elliot**

Ghana, Moshi: "senseliago". [zzzav]
Nigeria: "rojiya". [zzzav]
Sudan, Zande: "baine abungo". [zzzav]
Fulani: "ndafe",
"fugore". [zz59]
Guinea Bissau, Mandinga: "fiôm". [zzzav]
Guinea: "vié". [zzzav]
Bambara: "fié" [zz59] see also ***Raphionacme splendens***.

Nigeria, tubers eaten, said to be sweet. Guinea, follicles (fruit) eaten. [zzzav] Sometimes large and turnip-like tuber with milky juice. Eaten by Fulani and Mandingo both raw and roasted. Barth writes that it is very refreshing and nutritious:

> "A man may travel all day with nothing to eat but this root."

Causes colic if too much is eaten. [zz59] Bullock thought the last comment was possibly due to confusion with *Raphionacme jurensis* which shares some of its range with this species. [zz43] Albers & Meve now consider these two to be synonymous. [zz215]

Raphionacme burkei see ***Raphionacme velutina***

Raphionacme daronii see ***Raphionacme splendens***

Raphionacme divaricata see ***Raphionacme hirsuta***

Raphionacme galpinii **Schltr.**

Swaziland: "indzema",
"lubhuku". [zz144]
South Africa, Mpumalanga Province, Bushbuckridge: "Madema",
"Dema". [rrrfw]

Swaziland. Edible fruit and roots. [zz144] South Africa, Mpumalanga Province, Bushbuckridge. Leaves eaten as wild herbs. [rrrfw] Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

Swaziland. Tuber used to treat rashes. [zz144]

Raphionacme hirsuta **(E. Mey.) R.A. Dyer**

Lesotho: "kherenchane". [zzznz, zzzrr]
Swaziland: "indzema". [zz144]
!Kung: "n/won/washe". [zz137]

Swaziland, edible fruit & tubers. Assists fermentation. Maybe poisonous. [zz144] Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

Water root for the !Kung. [zz137]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, published in 1917:

> "A medicine for internal tumours is prepared from the plant. Recently the plant has been used by the natives for making a very intoxicating beverage called "ghali" by mixing it with treacle or sugar, kaffir-corn,* and water." [zzznz]

* A term now considered offensive, meaning the nutritious grain from *Sorghum bicolor*.

Tuber used by the Manyika as a magic charm to make babies similarly large and fat. Large tuber used for brewing an intoxicating beer. The beer is called "ghali" in Basutoland (now the Kingdom of Lesotho). *R. divaricata* was studied and nothing to explain the intoxication was found. Watt studied *R. purpurea* He found that the fresh tuber fermented at room temperature and that water. Alcohol extracts of fresh or dried tubers depressed the central nervous system in cats. The effect could last four days and overdose could kill. [zz241]

These two species are "now sunk in *Raphionacme hirsuta*" noted Watt, with, perhaps, an implied disapproval. [zz241] Tropicos® now gives these as three separate species [zz231] but stapeliads.info and Kew's Plants of the World Online lump them together. [zz215]

Swaziland. Medicinal for chronic ulcers. [zz144] South Africa, tuber and unspecified parts vs. cancer and tumours. [zzzas] Lesotho: vs. internal tumours. [zzzrr]

Raphionacme kubangensis see ***Raphionacme angolensis***

Raphionacme lanceolata **Schinz**

Namibia,	Jul'hoansi:	"n|òàqn|òàqcè". [zzzsq]
	!Kung:	"n/oan/oase". [zzzsl]
Ovambo:	"zurukaka",	
Herero:	"etundo". [zzzav]	

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi. Very watery tubers used as a water source. Grated and squeezed to express the juice. Less popular than ***Raphionacme velutina*** and some say it is harmful. Hunters sometimes moisturise their arrow poison with the juice. [zzzsq]

Southern Africa, source of water for locals. [zzzav] Sap (juice?) of tuber drunk in times of need but not very tasty. [zzzsl]

Namibia, !Kung. Boiled or pulverised root as liver remedy. [zzzsl]

Raphionacme longifolia **N.E.Br.**
Zimbabwe: "Mongwa". [zzzav]

Zimbabwe. Tuber eaten by locals. [zzzav]

Raphionacme madiensis **S.Moore**
Rwanda, Kinyaruanda: "Mukuru". [zzzav]

Rwanda. Tuber said to be edible. [zzzav]

Raphionacme procumbens **Schltr.**
South Africa, Mpumalanga: "Dema". [zzzmv]
Swaziland: "imfuce",
"indzema". [zz144]

Edible fruit. [zz144] Southern Africa, fruit as snack. [zzznw]

South Africa, Mpumalanga, Jongilanga Tribal Council. "Bulb" mixed with milk used vs. painful waist and to enhance erections. [zzzmv] Medicinal. [zz144]

Raphionacme purpurea see ***Raphionacme hirsuta***

Raphionacme splendens **Schltr.**
Reported as *Brachystelma bingeri* and *Raphionacme daronii*.

Mali: "fie". [zzzav]
Fulani: "nda-fegué". [zz59]
Guinea: "fonye". [zzzav]
Bambara: "fié-hié",
"fié-gué",
"figué"
but also simply "fié", the same name as ***Raphionacme brownii*** and *Lagenaria*, the Bottle Gourd. [zz59]
Mandingo: "fikongo". [zz59]
Diola: "hiama". [zz59]
Burundi, Kirundu: "imachi". [zzzav]
Niger, Zarma: "billili". [zzzav]
Sudan, Zande: "baine". [zzzav]
Kenya: "akakarr". [zzzav]
Rwanda, Kinyaruanda: "mukuru". [zzzav]
Burkina Faso, Seno & Nayala Provinces: "Sensenega",
"Daffio",
"Goin". [zzzwa]

Tuber 2-3 inches in diameter. White flesh exuding latex when cut. [zz59] Tuber eaten raw as a staple in times of food emergency. Children eat the tubers at all times. [zz68] Refreshing rather than nutritious, mostly carbohydrate. Eaten raw when very fresh, after removing the more milky and resinous outer layer. Europeans have used it as a substitute for boiled turnips. Several other South African and Abyssinian species have edible tubers. [zz59] Most widespread species of *Raphionacme*. Raw edible tuber said to taste of sweet potato. [zzzav] Burkina Faso, bulb eaten raw in the wet season. [zzzsp]

Burkina Faso, Seno & Nayala Provinces, raw root eaten to suppress appetite and quench thirst during famine. Reported as both *Brachystelma bingeri* and *Raphionacme daronii*, and together they are more commonly used locally than any other appetite suppressant or thirst-quencher. Gathered from wild. [zzzwa]

Burkina Faso, tuber to increase sperm and vs. sexual weakness. Nutritional, tonic and stimulating. [zzzxs] Decoction of leaves vs. conjunctivitis. [zzzav]

Raphionacme utilis **N.E. Br. & Stapf**

Angola, tuber source of ecanda rubber, also called bitinga or marianga rubber. [zz241] Produces a very good rubber. Tubers up to 15 pounds (7 kilos). Due to the variability of the plant it was thought that more than one species might be involved. [zz18a] Due to rapid coagulation on exposure to air the plants could not be tapped in the same way as many other rubber sources. The tuber was harvested and crushed before treatment to extract the latex. [zz134, zz216] Attempts at commercial cultivation were a complete failure due to the slow growth rate of the plant. [zz121]

Raphionacme velutina **Schltr.**
Also reported as *Raphionacme burkei*.

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "goèh",
"!àì!àì". [zzzsq]
!Kung San, Nyae Nyae: "gwe". [zz151]
!Kung San, !Ko, //Gana, /Gwi, Nharo: "bi". [zz151]
"!gi !gi", "gwe". [zz137]
South Africa: "melkbol". [zzzav]

Edible. [zz151] A water root for the !Kung. [zz137]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi, very watery tubers used as a water source and one of the most valued. Shallow and easily dug up. Peeled, grated and squeezed to express the juice. After squeezing, the grated bits may be used to wash the face. The gratings may then be thrown in the direction of the sun with an entreaty for rain. In former time the tuber was carved into toys. Hunters sometimes moisturise their arrow poison with the juice. [zzzsq] Kung, tuber source of water. Herero, tuber source of food. [zzzav]

"Raphionacme velutina"
As the location is given as Yemen these reports are unlikely to be about this species as *Raphionacme velutina* was only previously known from the southern parts of Africa. Though *Raphionacme arabica* was described in 1988, thirty years before these references, it seems to be the most likely candidate.

Southern Yemen: "Qurs-bathilan". [zzzpv]
Yemen, central Abyan governate, Mukeiras district: "Knaanaa". [zzznu]
Al-Wadhee district: "Kaanan". [zzznu]

Southern Yemen, tuber eaten fresh in rainy season, sweet.[zzzpv]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, leaf paste applied vs. eczema. [zzznu]

Raphionacme vignei **E.A.Bruce**
Ghana, Wala: "sailini".

Tubers eaten raw by locals. [zzzav]

Raphionacme welwitschii **Schltr. & Rendle**
Malawi, Lomwe: "Kangale". [zzzpg]

Malawi, underground parts peeled, boiled and eaten like any potato. Aphrodisiac. [zzzpg]

Dug for food by chimpanzees using tools at Ugalla, Tanzania. In that case a 49cm stick was used as the digging tool. Other tubers, including species of Fabaceae, Rubiaceae, Smilacaceae and Taccaceae, are excavated and eaten by chimpanzees there. [zz101]

Raphistemma hooperianum see ***Cynanchum hooperianum***

Raphistemma pulchellum see ***Cynanchum pulchellum***

Rhyncharrhena linearis see ***Vincetoxicum lineare***

Rhytidocaulon fulleri **Lavranos & Mortimer {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**
Dhofar, Jibbali: “d̲eġúbsī”,
“duġebós”. [rrrbi] See also ***Echidnopsis planiflora***.

Dhofar, hills above Rakhyut near the border with Yemen. The first report of the species noted that the plant was eaten by locals though rare. The African species known at the time (see ***Rhytidocaulon paradoxum*** and ***Rhytidocaulon subscandens)*** were also said by Major Fuller to be eaten. [rrrbt] Dhofar. Rare. Fresh stems after rain, flowers and fruit are all edible. [rrrbi] Arabian Peninsula, shoots eaten, as snack food by herders. [zz79]

Rhytidocaulon macrolobum **Lavranos**

Yemen, edible. [zz190]

Ate a few raw stems. Unremarkable flavour, unobjectionable, juicy, easy to eat. [me]

Rhytidocaulon macrolobum **Lavranos subsp. *macrolobum***

Yemen, central Abyan governate:	"Quarran". [zzznu]
Southern Yemen:	"Quarran". [zzzpv]

Southern Yemen. Young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter. Seldom found. [zzzpv]

Yemen, central Abyan governate, young stem pieces chewed and swallowed vs. tooth weakness, gastritis, constipation and loss of memory. [zzznu]

Rhytidocaulon paradoxum **P.R.O. Bally**

Somalia. Once collected for food. [zz124] One of the African species said to be eaten. [rrrbt]

Rhytidocaulon subscandens **P.R.O. Bally**

One of the African species said to be eaten. [rrrbt]

Rhytidocaulon tortum **(N.E.Br.) M.G.Gilbert**

Yemen:	"quaran". [zz12a]	
	central Abyan governate:	"Quarran". [zzznu]
	Southern:	"Quarran". [zzzpv]

Southern Yemen, young stem eaten fresh in rainy season, mild bitter. Seldom found. [zzzpv] Edible. [zz190]

Whole plant vs. wound, allergy. [zz12a] Yemen, central Abyan governate, Fresh stem pieces crushed to a paste applied vs. wounds. [zzznu]

Riocreuxia burchellii see ***Riocreuxia polyantha***

***Riocreuxia picta* Schltr. {Ceropegieae - Anisotominae}**
Swaziland: "umdzandzabuka wemahlatsi". [zz144]
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Morarana oa nōka" (= "small river creeper"). [zzznz]
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "bwerepwere", "berepere". [zzzov]

Edible leaves eaten as spinach. [zz144] South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, leaf as vegetable. [zzzov]

***Riocreuxia polyantha* Schltr.**
Reported as *Riocreuxia burchellii* and *Riocreuxia profusa*.

Swaziland: "umshunko". [zz144]

Lesotho, edible. [zz65] Southern Africa, whole plant and leaf as vegetable. [zzznw] Edible leaves eaten as spinach. [zz144]

Tanzania, leaf eaten by chimpanzees. [zz67]

Tanzania root decoction vs. ascariasis. Root decoction, together with sap of *Stephania abyssinica* (Menispermaceae) vs. pinworm. [zz206]

Riocreuxia profusa see ***Riocreuxia polyantha***

***Riocreuxia torulosa* Decne.**
Zulu: "Uqwapa". [zz76]
"Ugwapa". [zz99]
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Morarana oa moru" (= "small wood creeper"). [zzznz]
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "mufungwi". [zzzov]

Zululand (Ubombo district): leaves eaten as famine food. [zz76] Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw] South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, leaf as vegetable. (As *Riocreuxia torulosa* var. *torulosa*.) [zzzov]

***Ruehssia* spp. {Marsdenieae}**
Reported as *Marsdenia* sp. (unidentified). The genus *Marsdenia* is now restricted to the Old World so this is presumably a species of *Ruehssia*.

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní: "Supua käti". [zzzep]

Bolivia, Chaco, Izoceño-Guaraní, though it has the same name it does not share the medicinal uses of ***Funastrum gracile*** *and* ***Philibertia gilliesii***. The abundant latex is used to glue paper and carnival masks, for adding cloth, wool, fibres, etc. [zzzep]

***Ruehssia amylacea* (Barb.Rodr.) F.Esp.Santo & Rapini**
Reported as *Elcomarhiza amilacea*, coined from the ancient Greek for "ulcer root", referring to its uses. The specific name *amylacea* means "starchy" in Latin. Also called *Marsdenia amylacea.*

Brazil, Parà: "kumakà",
"kumakaà",
"cumacaà". [zzzer]

Brazil, Parà. The botanist who described the plant and gave it its name in 1891 noted that the starch from the tuberous root is very effective vs. wounds, ulcers and thickening of the conjunctiva. A preparation was sold by a pharmacist in Belém do Grão Pará, neatly packaged and named "Cumacaina". [zzzer]

Superstitious people also regarded the starch as magical, whether included in ink to achieve ones aims or used to starch the clothes of a lover to keep them faithful. The leaf was thought to make any woman beautiful. [zzzer]

***Ruehssia castillonii* (Lillo ex T.Mey.) H.A.Keller & Liede**
Reported as *Marsdenia castillonii*.

Argentina/Paraguay Chacos:	"manioca del monte" (mountain cassava),		
	Chamacocos:	"öry-börshy",	
Argentina, Chacos:	Choroti I:	" 'niwak",	
	Choroti II:	" 'nawišiuk",	
		"naawašuk",	
	Chorote,	Yójwaha:	"niwák",
		Yówujwa:	"náawishiuk". [zzzrj]
	Mataco:	"ne'wok"	
	Pilagá:	"sowo'qaik"	
	Toba-Pilagá:	"howo'kaik". [rrrgf]	
Paraguay Chacos:	Ayoreo:	"doi",	
		"doidie".	
		"a'do",	
	Chulupí:	"no'wak",	
		"no'vak",	
	Lengua:	"paatîł",	
	Maká:	"yo'wek",	
	Manjui:	" 'nawosok". [rrrgf]	

Argentina/Paraguay Chacos. The climber is usually up to 5 metres but can reach 10 metres. The abundant roots can reach 5 metres from the plant, usually in the top 35 cm of the soil. One herbarium specimen noted the presence of "potatoes" 30cm long. Several family groups can be fed from a single plant. Roots best when collected in the cold, dry season when the plant has lost all its leaves. Roots usually roasted in embers or over hot coals, may also rarely be baked or boiled. Very young roots can be eaten raw and used as a source of water. Served with whatever fat is available. [rrrgf]

Argentina/Paraguay Chacos. Fruit develop in midsummer (January and February) and are as popular as the roots. Very young, tender fruit can be eaten raw but usually roasted over coals or baked in the oven and served with fat. [rrrgf]

Argentina, Chorote, unripe fruits, raw as fresh fruit. Fruits, roasted. Roots, roasted or boiled, eaten seasoned with fish fats. [zzzrj] South America, Gran Chaco. Roots and fruit eaten by Ayoreo, Chorote, Lengua-Maskoy, Maká, Pilagá, Western & Eastern Toba and Wichi peoples. [fffaq]

***Ruehssia coulteri* (Hemsl.) L.O.Alvarado**
Reported as *Marsdenia coulteri*.

Mexico, Oaxaca: "pancololole". [rrrep]
Gulf of Mexico province: "talayote". [rrrda]
Campeche & Yucatan: "sak mul lool kaab ak' "
"x emtsul",
"talayote". [rrrep]
Yucatan, Maya: "emtsul". [rrrep]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Oaxaca. Fruit eaten, possibly roasted? [rrrep] Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. Fruit edible. [rrrda]

Mexico, Yucatan Peninsula. Latex? used vs. gum infections. [rrrep]

***Ruehssia cundurango* (Triana) Liede & H.A.Keller**
Reported as *Marsdenia cundurango*.

Southern Ecuador, Loja province: "Condorango". [zzzop]
"Condorvine". [zz237]
"Condurango blanco". [zz82]
"condorango",
"cundurango". [zzzeb]

Southern Ecuador, Loja province, fresh or dried stem and bark soaked in cane alcohol, taken orally for kidneys. [zzzop] Peru & Ecuador, Provides condurango bark, used vs. syphilitic affections. Ecuador vs. snakebites. Condors believed to eat the leaves to cure wounds and snakebite. [zzzeb] Used in cundurango wine as a stomachic. [zz237]

Diuretic, stomachic, alterative. Has been regarded as a remedy for cancer, though useful in early stages it has no effect on the progress of the disease. Great benefit in chronic syphilis. Overdose produces convulsions, paralysis, vertigo and disturbed sight. [zz82] Can cause allergic reaction in people with latex allergy.[zzzad]

The German Commision E approves the use of condurango for loss of appetite by stimulation of the secretion of saliva and gastric juices. Dose 2-4g of bark. [zz37]

Ruehssia edulis (S.Watson) L.O.Alvarado
Reported as *Marsdenia edulis*.

Mexico, Mayo: "mabe",
"tonchi". [zzzgi]
Sonora: "Talajote", [zzzea]
"Talayote". [zzzeb]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, green fruit eaten, [zzzea] young fruit eaten. [zzzeb] NW Mexico, Mayo, common plant, young pods widely eaten. Stem stripped of bark, chewed for sweet flavour. [zzzgi]

Roots and stems boiled in water, applied vs. varicose veins. [zzzgi]

***Ruehssia lanata* (Paul G.Wilson) L.O.Alvarado**
Reported as *Marsdenia lanata*.

Mexico, Guerrero: "caxancapajtle de bejuco”.
“caxanque de borreguito". [rrrfd]
El Salvador, La Libertad Department: “papalota”. [rrrfe]

Mexico, Guerrero. Root medicinal. [rrrfd]

El Salvador, La Libertad Department. Poisonous in this place. [rrrfe]

***Ruehssia macrophylla* (Humb. & Bonpl. ex Schult.) H.Karst.**
Reported as *Marsdenia macrophylla*.

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province: "talayote". [rrrda]
"Talayote" is also used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Gulf of Mexico province. Fruit edible. [rrrda]

***Ruehssia mexicana* (Decne.) L.O.Alvarado**
Reported as *Marsdenia mexicana*.

Faustino Miranda considered that it was possible that this plant was one of several known in Nahuatl as "tlallantlacacuitlapilli". Francisco Hernández wrote the *Historia de las plantas de Nueva* España between 1571 and 1576. In Book 5, Chapter XXXV, Hernández wrote that the root of this second "tlallantlacacuitlapilli" was used in doses of one ounce vs. urinary suppression and flatulent stomachache. Sometimes used with half an ounce of capsicum pepper ("pimiento", which could be spicy hot or not) to cleanse and heal the kidneys and urinary channels and frees withheld sperm. Hernández reported that it was like liquorice medically and could easily replace it. [zzzfs]

Ruehssia paraguaiensis **(Morillo) Liede & H.A.Keller**
Reported as *Marsdenia paraguaiensis*.

Paraguayan Chaco, Ayoreo: "adó". [zzzjt]

Paraguayan Chaco, Ayoreo, roots edible roasted in ashes but can cause vomiting if not thoroughly cooked. Not eaten by rodents. one vine can supply more than 3kg of roots. Preferred in the dry season when the water content is low. Fruit can be eaten but not pleasant. Fruit valves used as spoons. [zzzjt] South America, Gran Chaco - Roots eaten by Ayoreo people. [fffaq]

Ruehssia parvifolia **(Brandegee) L.O.Alvarado**
Reported as *Marsdenia parvifolia*.

Mexico, Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley: "Combé". [zzzkf]

Mexico, Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley. Edible. [zzzkf]

Ruehssia propinqua **(Hemsl.) L.O.Alvarado**
Reported as *Marsdenia propinqua*.

Mexico, Chiapas, Zoque: “candua”. [rrrep]

Mexico, Chiapas. Fruits washed, soaked in lime water then boiled with sugar and cinnamon – then eaten. Seeds eaten, boiled or roasted, called “palomitas” – the same name as popcorn. [rrrep]

Ruehssia rubrofusca **(E.Fourn.) F.Esp.Santo & Rapini**
Reported as *Marsdenia rubrofusca*.

Amazon. Leticia area natives consider the plant too dangerous for medicine. Formerly used to kill dogs. [zzzbm]

Ruehssia tholiformis **(Juárez-Jaimes & L.O.Alvarado) L.O.Alvarado**

Mexico, Northeast. Fruit edible. [rrreo]

Ruehssia zimapanica **(Hemsl.) L.O.Alvarado**
Reported as *Marsdenia zimapanica*.

Mexico,	Sierra de Huautla Biosphere Reserve:	"Pancololote". [zzzuv] See also ***Asclepias oenotheroides*** and ***Gonolobus pancololote***.
	Morelos:	"Pancololote". [rrrep]
	Puebla:	"Pancololote". [zzzuv]
		"Pancololo". [rrrep]
	Hidalgo:	"tequampatli",
		"tecuampatli". [zzzeb]

Mexico, Sierra de Huautla Biosphere Reserve. Fruit and latex edible. [zzzuv] Mexico, Puebla. Fruit eaten roasted. [rrrep]

Mexico, Morelos. Latex vs. indigestion. [rrrep]

Mexico. Root mixed with meat to poison coyotes but that may be a different plant. [zzzeb]

S

Sarcocyphula gerrardi see ***Cynanchum gerrardi***

Sarcolobus carinatus **Wall. {Marsdenieae}**
Sometimes reported as *Sarcolobus virulentus* Griff. But for *Sarcolobus carinatus* Griff. see ***Sarcolobus globosus***

Myanmar: "Swut-kha-mon-nwe". [zzzxn]

Myanmar, fruit as snacks for children playing in mangrove forests. [zzzxn]

Malaysia, Malacca, seed is used to produce a virulent poison. [zzzcw]

Sarcolobus globosus **Wall.**
Has been reported as *Sarcolobus carinatus* Griff., *Sarcolobus narcoticus* and *Sarcolobus spanoghei.*

Malaya:	"Kambing-kambing",	
	"Pĕlèr kambing",	
	"Pĕlèr kambing sĕdjoek". [zzzhh]	
Malaysia,	Peninsular:	"akar pelir kambing",
		"buah pitis",
		"pitis pitis". [zzzny]
	Malacca:	"Bopple Sambing". [zzzcw]
Java:	"lakambing". [zzzny]	
	"Gonggom",	
	"Kali kambing",	
	"Wali kambing". [zzzhh]	
Myanmar:	"Kyee-ka-lain". [zzzxn]	
Bengali:	"Baoali lata". [zzzxm]	

A pleasant-tasting sweet candy is made from the peels of the fruits. Soaked first in seawater, afterwards kept for a few days in fresh water. later on cooked in syrup. The peel is also eaten in Sambal as a dessert or side dish. [zzzhh] The toxins are water-soluble. [zzzny] Myanmar, fruit as snacks for children playing in mangrove forests. [zzzxn]

Leaf occasionally eaten in curry. [zzzny]

Seeds toxic, used for killing wild animals. Fresh coconut water is the antidote in humans. [zz177] Fruit are about 10cm (4 inches) by 7 cm (2¾ inches). Seeds from one fruit are enough to kill an elephant or buffalo. Reputedly used to render the Javanese tiger extinct. [zzzny] Peninsular Malaysia, leaves with *Aleurites* nut made into a paste for rubbing joints affected by rheumatism or dengue fever. [zzzny] Malay Archipelago. Used by the Javanese to kill wild dogs and tigers. [zz237] Root and inner bark pwdered and inserted into meat, used to kill wild dogs, pigs and tigers. [zzzhh] Malaysia, Malacca, seed is used to produce a virulent poison. [zzzcw]

India, West Bengal, Purba Medinipur district, seed paste used vs. tumours. One of the six most commonly used herbal medicines. [zzzxm]

Sarcolobus narcoticus see ***Sarcolobus globosus***

Sarcolobus spanoghei see ***Sarcolobus globosus***

Sarcolobus stenophyllus ***(A.Gray) P.I.Forst.***
Reported as *Gymnema stenophyllum.*

Western Australia, Kimberley Region, Jaru people: "diyinbul".

Western Australia, Kimberley Region, Jaru, poisonous plant with inedible fruit similar in appearance to the tasty, edible ***Leichhardtia viridiflora***. [zzzbv]

Sarcolobus virulentus see ***Sarcolobus carinatus*** ***Wall.***

Sarcostemma acidum see ***Cynanchum viminale*** **ssp.** ***viminale***

Sarcostemma aphylla see ***Cynanchum viminale*** **ssp.** ***viminale***

Sarcostemma australe see ***Cynanchum viminale*** **ssp.** ***australe***

Sarcostemma brevistigma see ***Cynanchum viminale*** **ssp.** ***viminale***

Sarcostemma brunonianum see ***Cynanchum viminale*** **ssp.** ***brunonianum***

Sarcostemma clausum see ***Funastrum clausum***

Sarcostemma cynanchoides see ***Funastrum cynanchoides***

Sarcostemma esculentum see ***Oxystelma esculentum***

Sarcostemma forskalianum see ***Cynanchum forskaolianum***

Sarcostemma glaucum see ***Funastrum glaucum***

Sarcostemma intermedium see ***Cynanchum sarcomedium***

Sarcostemma madagascariense see ***Cynanchum viminale* subsp. *viminale***

Sarcostemma pannosum see ***Funastrum pannosum***

Sarcostemma secamone see ***Secamone alpini***

Sarcostemma socotranum see ***Cynanchum socotranum***

Sarcostemma vanlessenii see ***Cynanchum vanlessenii***

Sarcostemma viminale see ***Cynanchum viminale***

Sarcostemma viminale ssp. *australe* see ***Cynanchum viminale* ssp. *australe***

Sarcostemma viminale ssp. *brunonianum* see ***Cynanchum viminale* ssp. *brunonianum***

Sarcostemma viminale ssp. *stipitaceum* see ***Cynanchum viminale* ssp. *stipitaceum***

Sarcostemma viminale ssp. *suberosum* see ***Cynanchum viminale* ssp. *suberosum***

***Schizoglossum* spp. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
See also ***Aspidoglossum* spp**., ***Cynanchum atropurpureum*** and *Cynanchum virens*.

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, written in 1917 of ***Periglossum angustifolium***: "The roots of this plant and of all species of *Schizoglossum* are eaten, especially by children."

The other species mentioned for the area in that article but not mentioned as edible separately are:

Schizoglossum biflorum = ***Aspidoglossum biflorum***,
Schizoglossum elingue
Schizoglossum flavum* var. *lineare
Schizoglossum pachyglossum = ***Schizoglossum bidens* subsp. *pachyglossum***
Schizoglossum pumilum = ***Aspidoglossum ovalifolium***
Schizoglossum robustum = ***Aspidoglossum ovalifolium***
Schizoglossum stenoglossum [zzznz]

Schizoglossum araneiferum see ***Aspidoglossum araneiferum***

***Schizoglossum atropurpureum* E.Mey.**
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Sehoètè-moru" (= "wood-carrot" because it grows on mountain slopes, near shrubs). [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The roots are eaten raw." [zzznz] Tuber edible. [zz241]

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

***Schizoglossum atropurpureum* ssp. *atropurpureum* E.Mey.**
Swaziland: "ishongwe",
Lesotho, Tsehlanyane and Bokong: "sehoete-moru". [zz139]

Swaziland: Edible roots. [zz144]

Lesotho, Tsehlanyane and Bokong: medicinal. [zz139] Smoked bundled roots vs. lightning. [zz144]

***Schizoglossum atropurpureum* ssp. *virens* (E. Mey.) Kupicha**

Lesotho, edible. [zz65]

***Schizoglossum bidens* subsp. *pachyglossum* (Schltr.) Kupicha**

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, in the list in 1917 of local species of *Schizoglossum* but with no use specified. Of ***Periglossum angustifolium*** in the same article: "The roots of this plant and of all species of *Schizoglossum* are eaten, especially by children." [zzznz]

Schizoglossum biflorum see ***Aspidoglossum biflorum***

Schizoglossum capense see ***Stenostelma capense***

***Schizoglossum cordifolium* E.Mey.**
Swaziland: "sicadze".

Edible roots. [zz144]

***Schizoglossum elingue* N.E.Br.**

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, in the list in 1917 of local species of *Schizoglossum* but with no use specified. Of ***Periglossum angustifolium*** in the same article: "The roots of this plant and of all species of *Schizoglossum* are eaten, especially by children." [zzznz]

Schizoglossum flavum* Schltr. var. *lineare

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, in the list in 1917 of local species of *Schizoglossum* but with no use specified. Of ***Periglossum angustifolium*** in the same article: "The roots of this plant and of all species of *Schizoglossum* are eaten, especially by children."

Schizoglossum interruptum see ***Aspidoglossum interruptum***

Schizoglossum lamellatum see ***Aspidoglossum lamellatum***

***Schizoglossum linifolium* Schltr.**
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Sehoètè Ntlhokoe" (= "slender carrot") [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The roots are eaten raw." [zzznz] Tuber edible. [zz241]

Schizoglossum pachyglossum see ***Schizoglossum bidens* subsp. *pachyglossum***

Schizoglossum pentheri see ***Aspidoglossum erubescens***

Schizoglossum pulchellum see ***Miraglossum pulchellum***

Schizoglossum pumilum see ***Aspidoglossum ovalifolium***

Schizoglossum robustum see ***Aspidoglossum ovalifolium***

Schizoglossum shirense see ***Aspidoglossum biflorum***

***Schizoglossum stenoglossum* Schltr.**

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, in the list in 1917 of local species of *Schizoglossum* but with no use specified. Of ***Periglossum angustifolium*** in the same article: "The roots of this plant and of all species of *Schizoglossum* are eaten, especially by children."

***Schlechterella abyssinica* (Chiov.) Venter & R.L.Verh. {Periplocoideae}**
Formerly *Raphionacme abyssinica*.

Ethiopia, Somali National Region State: "Dhoonbir". [zz228] Same name as ***Cibirhiza spiculata***.

Ethiopia, Hamar & Konso. Tuber edible. Harvested in one dry season in January/February and the rainy season from April to June. [zzzqm] Implied to be edible. [zz228]

***Schlechterella africana* (Schltr.) K.Schum.**

Northern Tanzania, Eastern Kenya,	Somali:	"fajita",
		"eli",
	Boran:	"singo".

Large tuber eaten by the locals in times of drought. Also fed to young camels. [zz45]

Schubertia grandiflora see ***Macroscepis grandiflora***

Schubertia schreiteri see ***Macroscepis schreiteri***

Scytanthus burkei see ***Hoodia currorii***

Scytanthus currorii see ***Hoodia currorii***

***Secamone* sp. {Secamonoideae}**

Madagascar, Lokar Reserve: "Taratasy". [zzzjl]

Madagascar, Lokar Reserve, leaf or fruit (?) edible and medicinal vs. digestive problems, venom, low energy/strength. [zzzjl]

***Secamone afzelii* (Roem. & Schult.) K.Schum.**

Sometimes reported as *Secamone myrtifolia*.

Sierra Leone, Mende:	"ndikpa-bai". [zz59]	
Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire),	Ashanti:	"Niamablé",
	Baoulé:	"Donniania",
		"Kotêbouè",
	Gouro:	"Bisianévouin",
		"Bassialewin",
		"Korodou",
	Nékédié:	"Di Titi". [zzzfa]
Southern Ghana, Ejisu-Juaben Municipality:		"Kwantemaa". [zzzia]
Benin, Anii:	"Gakpélékpélé". [zzzob]	
S. Nigeria,	Bini:	"Ewuonkwonegie",
	Ibo:	"utunta",
	Yoruba:	"ailu",
		"alu", [zzzgn]
		"arilu". [zz59]

Benin, Anii, Wellan village. As vegetable. [zzzob]

Copious milky juice vs. boils. Decoction of leaf common as purge.

Sierra Leone, Susu. Much valued as a purge, fresh leafy twigs often boiled with rice and the liquid drunk freely. Acts quickly without griping and used for children in S. Nigeria. Suspected to be poisonous. [zz59]

Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire). Antidiarrhoeal and intestinal antispasmodic. Enema vs. female infertility and to help pregnancy and ease chilbirth. Assists appetite and vs. anaemia. Crushed leaves ameliorate the overly purgative effects of *Anchomanes difformis* (Araceae). [zzzfa]

Nigeria. Used vs. stomach problems, diabetes, colic, dysentery, kidney problems, sore throat, backache. Whole plant vs. cough, catarrh and to promote milk production. Whole plant crushed with fresh palm nuts and oil vs. gonorrhoea. [zzzgn]

Southern Ghana, Ejisu-Juaben Municipality. Ground leaves topically vs. severe skin rashes. [zzzia]

Zulu. Root poisonous but used vs. spinal disease by medicine men. [zzzgn] Southwest Africa, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, tonic. Latex vs. boils, abscesses,skin eruptions. Bitter sap of stem and leaf as stomachic, purgative, diuretic. Crushed for cooking food for gonorrhoea patients. [zzzgo]

Secamone alpini **Schult.**
Also reported as *Sarcostemma secamone*. This species is only native to South and East Africa, so the reports may be for another plant. ***Secamone emetica*** is found in India. *Secamone laurifolia* is found in India and Thailand but 9 other species of *Secamone* are found in Thailand. None are found within 2,000km (1230 miles) of Smyrna/Izmir in Turkey.

India: "dudhialata" (milk vine).

Northeast Thailand. Edible, collected in the wet season from May to October. [zzzhe]

India. Used vs. jaundice, sore throat and mouth infections. [zz109]

Drastic purge. Identified by some as source of Smyrna Scammony (Scammonium Smyrnaeum) [rrrhg] but doubtfully. [zzzdh]

Secamone capitata **Klack.**
SW Madagascar, Mikoboka, Amboronabo, Mahaboboka: "Sanatry". [rrrap]

Southwest Madagascar, Mikoboka, Amboronabo, Mahaboboka. Leaf decoction drunk or root/seed powder mixed with water as forehead mask vs. dizziness in pregnancy. Root powder licked for prenatal care. Leaf decoction given as drink or root powder mixed with water applied vs. late closing of baby's fontanel. Root powder licked or leaf decoction as bath vs. epilepsy. Seed powder mixed with water and given to lick vs. cardiac problems in children. [rrrap]

***Secamone cuneifolia* Bruyns**
Socotra, Soqotri simplified:

"di rikibih" (= riding),
"rikibih di 'iksheh" (= riding/climbing in the tree *Commiphora ornifolia*, Burseraceae),
"gheqqihiyn",
"eqqihiyn", plural: " 'aqahan". (also *Cocculus pendulus* (Menispermaceae) and Socotran ***Cryptolepis* spp.**). [rrrbd]

Socotra. Sprigs of flowers are sweet-smelling and are tucked into clothing and hair. Smelling sweetly fragrant plants held to protect against noxious air and infection. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Increases milk in livestock. Made into "bows" for beating wool to prepare it for spinning. Flexible branches used for the wooden rim of leather watering buckets. [rrrbd]

***Secamone elliptica* R. Br.**
Also reported as *Secamone micrantha*.

China: 鯽魚藤 "ji yu teng" (= carp vine). [zz141]

China. Roots vs. rheumatism and traumatic injury. [zz141]

Timor, it was reported in 1844 [zzzly] that:

> "Timor natives dry the roots and make the drink *larou*."

In the original Latin:

> "Timoris indigeni radicibus exsiccatis ad parandum potum *larou* utuntur."

The only other mention I can find referring to *larou* was in a description published in 1828:

> "*Beer*. - The inhabitants of Kupang still make a spiritous drink called *larou*, with the root of a tree which, it is said, is the *kayou-amboin* [apparently simply meaning "Ambon island wood"]. They begin by removing the bark from this root; then cut it into pieces of three to four inches in length, which are placed in a jug filled with a sufficient quantity of water; a certain dose of syrup or palm sugar is added to it: the whole is left to ferment for six to eight hours. The same root can be used for several months running; it takes about two handfuls to make seven to eight pints of beer. The first week, the liquor obtained is too strong, and is not drinkable; it is usually thrown away, but after that it acquires a slightly bitter taste of wine. The sailors prefer our beer from Europe. To keep this root for a long time, after raking it out, put it in small packages and keep it in the air or in a very dry place. This kind of beer would be a precious resource for our European crews; because it is said to be very good against scurvy. When it is left to ferment for more than six to eight hours, it gets sour; and if you put it in the sun, it provides, after a week, pretty good vinegar."

In the original French:

> "*Bière*. — Les habitans de Coupang font encore une boisson spiritueuse nommée *larou*, avec la racine d'un arbre qui, dit-on, est le *kayou-amboin*. On commence par enlever l'écorce de cette racine; puis on la coupe en morceaux de trois à quartre pouces de longueur, qu'on met dans un vase rempli d'une suffisante quantité d'eau; on y ajoute une certaine dose de sirop ou de sucre de palmier: le tout reste à fermenter l'espace de six à huit heures. La même racine peut servir pendant plusieurs mois de suite; il en faut environ deux poignées pour faire sept à huit pintes de bière. La première semaine, la liqueur qu'on obtient est trop forte, et n'est point potable; on la jette ordinairement: mais elle acquiert ensuite un goût vineux légèrement amer. Les matelots préfèrent à notre bière d'Europe. Pour conserver long-temps cette racine, on doit, après l'avoir ratissée, la mettre en petits paquets et la tenir à l'air ou dans un endroit très-sec. Cette espèce de bière seroit d'une ressource précieuse pour nos équipages européens; car on la dit être un fort bon antiscorbutique. Quand on la laisse fermenter plus de six à huit heures, elle s'aigrit; et si on la met au soleil, elle fournit, au bout d'une semaine, d'assez bon vinaigre." [zzzlz]

***Secamone emetica* (Retz.) R. Br. ex Schult.**

India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Angaravalli". [zzztf]
Western Ghats, "Angaravalli". [zzzul, zzzuo]
Palliyars: "Karuppattikodi". [zzzqr]

India, Tamil Nadu, Palliyars. Unripe and ripe fruit eaten. [zzzqr]

India, used as a substitute for ipecac. [zzzbd] Root, emetic. [zzzcv]

Not emetic, despite the botanical name. [zzzff]

Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe, leaf juice with milk orally for fifteen days vs. nervous disorder. [zzztf] Tamil Nadu, Karamadai Range of Western Ghats, Nellithurai Beat, Irulas tribes, leaves vs. nervous disorder. [zzzul] Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills, leaf juice with milk vs. joint pain. [zzzuo]

Secamone esculentum see ***Oxystelma esculentum***

***Secamone gerrardii* Harv. ex Benth. & Hook.f.**

Swaziland: "insakansaka",
"umgcobandlovu". [zz144]
Zulu: "uGobandlovu". [zzzja]

S. Africa, Zulu, said to be poisonous but used by medicine men vs. spinal diseases. [zz241, zzzja] South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, for "Gastro-intestinal - includes use as an enema". "Heart". "Pain producing - Rubbed into scarifications". "Sprains/Fractures". No further details. [zzziz]

Swaziland, bark and roots vs. chest pains, spinal complaints and stomach cramps. Strengthens blood. [zz144]

Secamone insularis **Miq.**

New Caledonia, Loyalty & Grand Terre Islands, cathartic, and vs. wounds. [zzzew]

Secamone ligustrifolia **Decne.**
Malagasy, Betsileo: "kisoriro". [zzzrd]
Betsileo, Merina and Sakalava: "tambonono". [zzzrd, fffao]

Madagascar. Twig and root, infusion as medicine. Promotes milk production. [zzzrd, fffao]

Secamone lineata see discussion under "***Sussuela esculenta***"

Secamone micrantha see ***Secamone elliptica***

Secamone obovata **Decne.**
Malagasy: "Vahé-u-t-zoupoune". [zzzly]

Madagascar, in 1844 it was reported that:

> "... branches slowly heat-hardened and immersed in water for a time for use as cord by fishermen."

In the original Latin:

> "... rami lenti igne indurati et sic in aquâ diuturne mersi pro funis a piscatoribus utuntur." [zzzly]

Secamone oleifolia **Decne.**
Malagasy: "vahimpapango". [zzzrd]
Betsileo and Tanala: "famonodindo" (= ghost-conquering). [zzzrd]

Madagascar, Betsileo and Tanala. Infusion given vs. possession by spirits. As talisman, hung around the neck of children vs. ghosts. Magic rather than medicinal. [zzzrd]

Secamone ovata see ***Secamone elliptica***

Secamone pachystigma **Jum. & H.Perrier**
Malagasy, Bara and Betsileo: "kantso". [zzzrd]

Madagascar, Bara and Betsileo, leaf infusion drunk to promote milk production in nursing mothers. [zzzrd]

Secamone papuana see ***Secamone elliptica***

Secamone parvifolia see ***Secamone schweinfurthii***

Secamone punctulata **Decne.**
Northern Kenya, Pokot: "kingesha". [zzzwm]

Northern Kenya, Pokot, domestic use, not food. [zzzwm]

Secamone sansibariensis see ***Secamone punctulata***

Secamone schweinfurthii **K.Schum.**
Also reported as *Secamone parvifolia*.

South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "thundwa",
"lutundwa",
"mutanamaswi". [zzzov]
Swaziland: "makhukhumetana",
"makhukhumetane",
"milimili". [zz144]
Mozambique, Canhane village: "nyokani",
"nyoka ya yitsongo",
"milimili". [zzzfn]
Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District: "Kiki". [zzzjb]
Tanzania, Sukuma: "Limuaga",
Nyamwezi: "Meramera". [rrrbc]

Tanzania, Sukuma. Roots pounded, mixed with honey to treat harsh cough. Leaves vs. scabies. [zz189] Tanzania. Root decoction taken vs. snake bite. [rrrbc]

Mozambique, Canhane village. Root decoction orally vs. worms, rheumatism, epilepsy, stomachache. Stem/roots decoction topically vs. varicose veins. [zzzfn]

Swaziland. Roots used for bewitchment and medicinal. [zz144]

Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District. Fresh leaves crushed and tied on vs. *naqarssa* (scrofula?) in livestock. [zzzjb]

South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District. Vine stems for craftwork. [zzzov]

Secamone socotrana **Balf.f.**
Socotra, Soqotri simplified:
"di rikibih" (= riding),
"rikibih di 'iksheh" (= riding/climbing in *Commiphora ornifolia*, Burseraceae),
"gheqqihiyn",
"eqqihiyn", plural: " 'aqahan" (also used for *Cocculus pendulus* (Menispermaceae) and Socotran ***Cryptolepis*** spp.). [rrrbd]

Socotra. Sprigs of flowers are sweet-smelling and are tucked into clothing and hair. Smelling sweetly fragrant plants held to protect against noxious air and infection. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Increases milk in livestock. Made into "bows" for beating wool to prepare it for spinning. Flexible branches used for the wooden rim of leather watering buckets. [rrrbd]

Secamone uniflora **Decne.**
Malagasy, Mahafaly: "mahafaly" (= maker of taboo). [zzzrd]

Madagascar. Regarded by the Mahafaly people as a symbol of their ethnicity. [zzzrd]

Secamonopsis madagascariensis **Jum. {Secamonoideae}**
Malagasy, "Vahimainty". [zz237]
Sakalava: "vahimainty" (= black liana). [zzzrd]
Sakalava: "Vahimaintsy",
Betsileo: "Angalora". [fffao]

Madagascar, anciently exploited for rubber. [zzzrd] Madagascar, source of good rubber. [zz237] Madagascar. Better rubber than ***Sicyocarpus verrucosus***, which is described by the same author as mediocre. [fffao]

Seshagiria sahyadrica see ***Cynanchum sahyadricum***

Sicyocarpus verrucosus **Bojer {Marsdenieae}**
Reported as *Marsdenia verrucosa*.

Malagasy: "Beraboky",
“Bokalahy”. [fffao]
Mahafaly: "berabohy". [zzzrd]
Mikoboka, Amboronabo, Mahaboboka: "Bokabe". [rrrap]
Sakalava: "bokabe" (very scabby, see ***Stephanotis floribunda***) [fffao][zzzrd]
"boka",
"haboka". [zzzrd]
Tankarana: "tsingovio". [zzzrd]

SW Madagascar, Mikoboka, Amboronabo, Mahaboboka. Leaf/Leafy twig decoction drunk or seed powder mix applied as forehead mask for prenatal care. Leaf decoction drunk for post partum recovery. Leaf decoction drunk as aphrodisiac. [rrrap]

Madagascar, source of good rubber. [zz237] Madagascar, Sakalava. Abundant but bad latex used to adulterate proper rubber. Sticky white latex used to trap birds. [zzzrd] Madagascar. Produces rubber but of mediocre quality. [fffao]

Sisyranthus huttoniae **(S.Moore) S.Moore. {Ceropegieae - Anisotominae}**

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho. As medicinal for "Nervous". No further details. [zzziz]

Sisyranthus imberbis **Harv.**
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Malla a ntebile" (= "Sorrows are facing one") [zzznz]
Mareu district: "Malla-ntebile". [zzzrp]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "Eaten by young men who are courting, in order to win the love of the girls and so avoid sorrow." [zzznz] Lesotho, Mareu district: whole plant vs. mother-to-child HIV infection. Love charm. [zzzrp]

Sisyranthus saundersiae **N.E.Br.**

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho. For "Nervous - includes use as emetic". No further details. [zzziz]

Sisyranthus trichostomus **(Harv.) K.Schum.**

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho. For "Nervous - includes use as emetic". No further details. [zzziz]

Socotora aphylla see ***Periploca visciformis***

Socotora visciformis see ***Periploca visciformis***

Socotranthus socotranus see ***Cryptolepis socotrana***

Socotrella dolichocnema **Bruyns {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "taba'sh",
"towba'sh",
"tabighash",
"ziberbiher". [rrrbd] See also Socotran ***Echidnopsis*** spp.

Socotra. Islanders view some plants as "taba'sh di teytin" (= sheep's *Echidnopsis*) and inedible, others are "taba'sh di irihan" (= goat's *Echidnopsis*) and edible. This may for the condition of the plant rather than species. The edible plants are eaten raw and are quite pleasant and sweet when young. Lessens thirst. Generally only eaten in the hungrier parts of the island. [rrrbd]

Stems crushed to clean hands. [rrrbd]

Solenostemma arghel **(Delile) Hayne {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**

Sometimes reported as *Solenostemma oleifolium*.

Mali, Arabic: "hargal". [zz59]
Sudan: "Harjal",
"Argel". [zz15a]
Egypt: "Hargal". [zzzkt]
Eastern Desert, Bischarin & Khushmaan: "harjal". [rrrbh]
Upper, Beni-Sueif: "Hhargal". [zzzok]
Targui (Tuareg): "aghallachem". [rrrax]
Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer, Touareg Tamahaq: "arellachem". [zzzsb]
Arabic: "ardjel". [zzzsb]

Algeria, Central Sahara. One man claimed he had heard that the fruit were edible. In 1933, René Maire argued he must have been mistaken. Their own observations and every Tuareg they had questioned denied the edibility of the fruit. [rrrhn]

Algeria, Central Sahara. In 1933, reported as used in infusions vs. rheumatism and gonorrhoea. Dried leaves boiled in milk with pepper, sweetened with dates or sugar and drunk hot vs. haemoptysis (spitting blood). [rrrhn]

Algeria, Central Sahara, Tassili N'ajjer, aerial parts, leaf and decoction internally vs. respiratory illness (pleurisy, cough), fever, measles, kidney and gastrointestinal diseases, jaundice, diabetes, skin diseases (soap), wounds and sores. Powdered aerial parts as poultice vs. rheumatisms and sciatica. Aerial parts decoction internally an poultice vs. gonorrhoea, syphilis and oedema. [zzzsb]

North Africa (Algeria?). Used vs. colds, diabetes, respiratory troubles, rheumatism, stomach pain, urinary infection and as a febrifuge. Bitter sap from the stem vs. colds; a drop of sap helps to clear sinuses. Sap helps to heal wounds and as eye lotion. Decoction in milk or infusion vs. respiratory troubles, diabetes, urinary infection and as a febrifuge. Powdered dried leaves vs. rheumatism. Dried leaves boiled in milk or any other liquid vs. spitting of blood. In traditional farming, small tufts of plant placed in irrigation channels to kill insects or as green manure. Branches to disinfect water. As soap to clean the body and clothes. [rrrax]

Egypt. Leaves vs. bronchitis, neuralgia and sciatica. Plant vs. measles and sometimes crushed vs. suppurating wounds. Leaf infusion vs. gastro-intestinal cramps, stomachache, colic, cold and infections of the urinary tract. Leaf infusion as an anti-syphilitic if used for 40-80 days. The leaves as purgative. [rrrax] Egypt, Eastern Desert, Bischarin. Leaf infusion as laxative. Khushmaan. Plant infusion vs. stomach ailments. Leaves removed individually from plant and exported to the Nile Valley where it is used as a purgative vs. colic. [rrrbh]

French Sudan (now Mali), pulverised leaves to heal sores of camels after washing the sores. Leaves and flowers taken internally as a blood purifier. Used as senna in Egypt. [zz59] Frequently used as an adulterant of Alexandrian senna leaves. [zzzct] Sudan. Toxic. Drunk as a beverage. Leaves for abortion, menstrual problems, purgative, antispasmodic and vs. indigestion, flatulence, colds, headache (as poultice), pain in the loins, fever and puerperal fever, nausea. Infusion on its own or with mixtures vs. heartburn. Leaf paste in cold water vs. diarrhoea in children. *With Artemisia absinthium* or *Artemisia herba-alba* (Asteraceae) vs. dyspepsia and flatulence. Burnt vs. colds with dizziness. Smoke vs. rashes. Incense with *Haplophyllum tuberculatum* (Rutaceae), alum and *Astripomoea lachnosperma* (Convolvulaceae) vs. evil magical spells. [zz15a] Egypt, Eastern Desert, tea of dried leaves vs, intestinal cramps. [zzzkt] Upper Egypt, Beni-Sueif, leaf infusion as antispasmodic vs. renal colic. [zzzok]

Egypt, Eastern Desert, Khushmaan. Charcoal used in a fire-starting tool. [rrrbh]

Egypt. Overcollection from the wild is threatening the plant as it is so popular as a medicine. Cultivation has been started to reduce the pressure on wild populations. [rrrax]

Solenostemma oleifolium see **Solenostemma arghel**

***Stapelia* spp. {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**

Used to ward off lightning. [zz241] Compare the European *Sempervivum*, Houseleek or Jupiter's Beard. [me]

Used vs. protruding navel. [zz95] This might refer to the belief that a child must cover his navel when he sees a *Stapelia* or his navel will get swollen. [zz90]

Stapelia adscendens see ***Caralluma adscendens***

Stapelia ango see ***Caudanthera edulis*** (though some herbarium sheets are clearly not.)

Stapelia chinensis see ***Hoya carnosa***

Stapelia cochinchinensis see ***Hoya verticillata***

Stapelia flavirostris see ***Stapelia grandiflora***

Stapelia gettliffei **R.Pott**
Also called Gonostemon gettliffei.

Botswana: "ditsebe tsa nkuku" (= granny's ears). [zz90]

Flowers edible. [zz90] Southern Africa, succulent stem edible. [zzznx]

Good luck. [zz95]

Stapelia gigantea **N.E. Br.**
Swaziland: "tililolomncane". [zz144]
Zulu: "uZililo". [zzzja]
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "muḓadzashango", "tshiovholosi". [zzzov]

Botswana, flowers edible. [zz90]

Fruits eaten by vervet monkeys. [zz90]

Zulu, hot infusion of the fleshy stalks as emetic vs. hysterical crying in young women. [zzzja] Purgative, emetic. Medicinally used against hysteria. The ash of this sp. or *Stapelia nobilis* (now regarded as the same sp.) were rubbed into scarifications to relieve pain. In Zulu sorcery used with grave dirt to cause death. [zz241] Aerial parts rubbed into cuts. [zz111] Swaziland, remedy for hysteria & mental disorders. Emetic. In sorcery to cause death. Home protection. [zz144] South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, for "Nervous - includes use as emetic". "Pain producing - Rubbed into scarifications". "Sprains/Fractures". "Charm". No further details. [zzziz] South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, root and leaf sap as medicine. [zzzov]

Stapelia grandiflora **Masson**
Lesotho: "Bohatsu" (= numbness). [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "For curing numbness, the limb is bathed with a hot infusion of the plant." [zzznz] Limbs bathed with hot infusion vs. numbness. Reported as *Stapelia flavirostris*. [zz241]

***Stapelia kwebensis* N.E. Br**
NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "taq'àtaq'àbà". [zzzsq] See ***Duvalia polita*** and ***Orbea huillensis***.
!Kung: "tataba". [zz137]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi. Entire plant eaten roasted and pounded with other foods such as *Schinziophyton rautenenii* (Euphorbiaceae) nuts, *Talinum* (Talinaceae) leaves and *Eulophia* (Orchidaceae) corms. Like *Duvalia polita* and *Orbea huillensis*, the mash is regarded as good food for for the elderly with tooth problems. Some informants said that only the roots are eaten and others denied the plant was edible. [zzzsq]

Leaves (sic) and root eaten by the !Kung. [zz137]

Southern Africa, stem as snack and vegetable. [zzznw]

***Stapelia leendertziae* N.E. Br.**
Swaziland: "tililolomncane".

Swaziland, remedy for hysteria & mental disorders. Emetic. [zz144]

Stapelia meliflua see ***Hoya meliflua***

***Stapelia olivacea* N.E. Br**
S. Africa, Southeastern Karoo: "kalong".

S. Africa, Southeastern Karoo, fresh stems eaten for appetite suppression. Informant reported:

> "sweet taste in the mouth does not last as long as that of ghaap". [zz247]

For "ghaap", see ***Hoodia*** spp., ***Pectinaria maughanii*** and ***Quaqua incarnata***.

Stapelia pancololote see ***Gonolobus pancololote***

"Stapelia reflexa"?

Reported in 1891 in a paragraph that briefly listed many uses of other asclepiads:

> "Stapelia reflexa is used by the Afghan mountain tribes as a bitter tonic and febrifuge, and Boucerosia Auchetiana is considered to have similar properties." [zzzff]

As *Stapelia reflexa* is only from the Cape in South Africa we can assume this is not an accurate identification. *Boucerosia aucheriana* is now called ***Desmidorchis aucheriana*** and considered to be native to Oman and Yemen. Perhaps those plants were the ones we now know as ***Apteranthes tuberculata*** and ***Caudanthera edulis***. Both occur in Afghanistan, are bitter, used as tonics and also used to soothe fevers. [me]

Stapelia unicornis **C.A. Lückh.**
Swaziland: "tililolomncane".

Swaziland, remedy for hysteria & mental disorders. Emetic. [zz144]

Stapelia variegata see ***Orbea variegata***
There are at least 39 more synonyms in *Stapelia* for the very variable and widespread species ***Orbea variegata***, including *Stapelia monstrosa* and *Stapelia normalis*.

Stapelianthus madagascariensis **(Choux) A.C.White & B.Sloane**
{Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}
Malagasy: "jirifo". [zzzrd]

Madagascar, squeezed juice as antiseptic vs. wounds. [zzzrd]

Stapeliopsis exasperata **(Bruyns) Bruyns {Ceropegieae – Stapeliinae}**

South Africa. Edible. The other species are not edible. [zzzow]

Stathmostelma angustatum **K.Schum. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Ethiopia, Amarinya: "engascelica".

Ethiopia. Tubers eaten. [zz78]

Stathmostelma angustatum **ssp.** ***vomeriforme*** **(S.Moore) Goyder**
Reported as *Stathmostelma thomasii*.

North East Uganda, Karamojo, edible root. 5 inches long x 1 inch thick. [zz43]

Stathmostelma gigantiflorum **K.Schum.**
Reported as *Stathmostelma nomadacridum*.

Tanzania, Rukwa Valley. 3 inch rounded tuber edible when the thin latex-bearing outer layer is removed. [zz43] Used medicinally. [zz44]

Stathmostelma nomadacridum see ***Stathmostelma gigantiflorum***

Stathmostelma pedunculatum **(Decne.) K. Schum.**
Ethiopia, Tigray: "Enteltel". [zzzwf]

Ethiopia, Tigray, root eaten raw, simply removing the rind. Reported *as Gomphocarpus pedunculatus*. [zzzwf] Kenya. Tuber said to be edible. Probably more common than ***Stathmostelma propinquum***. [zz156] Kenya, Masai. Tap root eaten by children. [rrreb]

Tanzania, Zigua, male aphrodisiac, roots pounded into flour, cooked and eaten. [zz189]

Stathmostelma propinquum **(N.E.Br.) Schltr.**
Kenya, Maa: "oltiakule",
"entiakule",
"entiakuleti",
"olekole loosirkon",
"olkikwakei". [zz156]

Kenya, Maasai. The juicy tubers are peeled and eaten raw. They have a very bland taste but are much liked by pastoralists for quenching thirst. [zz156]

Stathmostelma spectabile **(N.E.Br.) Schltr**

East Africa. Roots pounded and boiled with milk, after cooling the liquid on top makes a rapid and effective cure for diarrhoea. [zz48] Very striking, beautiful flowers. [me]

Stathmostelma thomasii see ***Stathmostelma angustatum ssp. vomeriforme***

Steinheilia radians see ***Cynanchum radians***

Stelmocrypton khasianum see ***Decalepis khasiana***

Stenostelma capense **Schltr. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Reported as *Schizoglossum capense.*

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi: "╪kànìbè". [zzzsq]
Namibia, Herero: "ombaruru". [zzzsl]
Namibia, German: "Buschkarotte" (= bush carrot). [zzzsl]

NE Namibia, Jul'hoansi. Spindle-shaped tuber up to 30 cm long and 5cm wide, baked in hot ashes before eating. [zzzsq] Namibia, Herero, tubers roasted and eaten. [zzzsl] Southern Africa, tuber edible. [zzznx]

***Stephanotis* sp. {Marsdenieae}**

East Africa, Gogo. Ointment from root vs. skin eruptions and scratches. Reported as *Dregea* sp. [zz241]

***Stephanotis abyssinica* (Hochst.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Previously *Dregea abyssinica, Hoya africana*, *Marsdenia abyssinica* and *Marsdenia spissa.*

Abyssinia, Moerebb river valley: "Schangok". [zzznv]
Ethiopia, Tigray Eastern Zone, Ganta Afeshum District: "Shankuk". [zzzpd]
Tanzania, Shambaa: "Lamee",
"Ubombo". [rrrbc]

Abyssinia, Moerebb river valley (Mereb River, now shared by Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan). Leaf cooked as a vegetable, in the original Latin "folia cocta oleracea". [zzznv]

Northern Ethiopia, Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ganta Afeshum District. Fresh leaf is crushed, mixed with water and smeared on the affected body vs. mumps. [zzzpd]

Tanzania. Fresh root chewed vs. snake bite. [rrrbc] Kenya, Tanganyika, medicinal. [zz241]

***Stephanotis arabica* (Decne.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Also known as *Dregea arabica* and *Marsdenia robusta.*

Socotra, Samha island, Soqotri simplified: "za'alhil". Name used to distinguish single-trunked shrubs/trees with large leaves from smaller plants with small leaves.
Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "meyrih". Plural: " 'emrihor". Names also used of ***Cryptolepis socotrana***, ***Cynanchum gerrardi***, ***Vincetoxicum linifolium*** and several plants from other families: *Cocculus pendulus*, *Euphorbia obcordata* and *Euphorbia socotrana*. [rrrbd]

Socotra. On Samha island for firewood, one of only three trees that are suitable. The hard wood is made into a variety of implements, including several used in spinning and weaving. [rrrbd]

Bark cut into thin strips and soaked in seawater for three or more days to make it supple for weaving into fish traps. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Sprigs of sweet-smelling flowers are tucked into clothing and hair. Attractive to bees. Smelling sweetly fragrant plants held to protect vs. noxious air and infection. [rrrbd]

Stephanotis floribunda **Jacques**

Malagasy: "Belataky",
"Bokabe" (very scabby),
"Boukabé",
"Bokabé",
"Latakana ombelahy",
"Lata Kombilahy",
"Latac anghomme lahe" (meaning "bull's testicles"),
"Vahiboka" (rough vine),
"Vahi Karabo",
"Vahivoraka" (bowel-loosener). [zzzrb]

South-east Madagascar, Tanosy. Crushed leaves used against inflammations of the lymph nodes, the swellings being called "taky".[zzzrd]

Very popular worldwide as a beautiful houseplant tolerant of neglect and readily producing spectacular white flowers with a delightful jasmine-like fragrance, strongest in the evening. The clusters of flowers are used, and often sold, in many countries for gracing weddings, etc. Within seven years of its introduction to France from Madagascar in 1832 it was being produced by nurseries to meet the demand from plant lovers. [zzzbw]

In 1999 just one Dutch nursery had a greenouse of 10,000m² (1 hectare or 2.47 acres) with 500,000 plants growing before they are taken to another greenhouse for flowering. The latex was so abundant in the air from making the cuttings that four workers developed allergies to it. Sprinkling water rather than sub-irrigation reduced the airborne latex. [zzzgg]

I am not going to be updating this entry but I do have an in-depth blog article at *Some Bad Photos of Plants* (https://pattheplants.blogspot.com/2020/02/belataky-stephanotis.html) that I updated in 2023. That article deals with the history, uses, European introduction and names of *Stephanotis floribunda*.

Stephanotis grandiflora **Decne.**

Malagasy: "Ambironaombilahy" [zzzrc] "Bull fibre-nettle-shrub" is the closest I can find to that, from *Laportea amberana* of the nettle family, Urticaceae.
"Latakanaombilahy" (= bull's testicles). [zzzrc]
"vahiganenona". [zzzrd]
"vahimakany". [zzzrb]
"vahimatehona". [zzzrb]
"vahimaukany". [zzzrb]

South-east Madagascar, Taisaka/Tanosy, the plant was used for magic and mystification. [zzzrc]

Stephanotis japonica see ***Jasminanthes mucronata***

Stephanotis lutchuensis see ***Jasminanthes mucronata***

***Stephanotis macrantha* (Klotzsch) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Reported as *Dregea macrantha.*

Ovamboland, Kwanyama: "omufinda shilundu",
Ndonga: "odhingulula",
"etanhoka". [zzzsl]

Namibia, Ovambo, cold water extract from crushed roots orally or as enema vs. constipation and urinary retention. Also taken as pulverised root, one teaspoonful twice daily in cold water. Grootfontein, Khoisan, root tea vs. venereal disease. Herero, root tea vs. coughs, chest pains and inflammation of the mouth. [zzzsl]

Stephanotis mucronata see ***Jasminanthes mucronata***

Stephanotis rubicunda (K.Schum.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve
Reported as *Dregea rubicunda* and *Marsdenia rubicunda*.

Northern Kenya, Marakwet: "kobochon". [zzzwm]

Root decoction added to improve honey beer flavour. [zz241]

Sudan, Darfur, leaves vs. flatulence, colic. Toxic. [zz15a] Tanganyika (now mainland Tanzania), root chewed as aphrodisiac. Southern Africa, regarded as poisonous. Root purgative and expectorant. [zz241] Northern Kenya, Marakwet. Medicinal use. [zzzwm]

East Africa. Wood for pestles and seed floss as filling material. Rootbark for necklaces. Powdered root in hair as perfume. [zz241]

***Stephanotis schimperi* (Decne.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Reported as *Dregea schimperi.*

Northern Kenya, Marakwet: "kobochon". [zzzwm]

Ethiopia, Amhara Region, North Shewa Zone, Ankober District. Fresh root extract applied to skin vs. rheumatism and gout. [zzzoq] Northern Kenya, Marakwet. Medicinal use. [zzzwm]

***Stephanotis volubilis* (L.f.) S.Reuss, Liede & Meve**
Reported as *Wattakaka volubilis*, *Hoya viridiflora*, *Hoya volubilis* and *Dregea volubilis.*

India: "Jukti",
"Haemajeevanthi",
"Haemalatha",
"Naakochhikni". [rrrfx]
North Andaman Island: "Charmi lata". [zzzsd]

India, Andhra Pradesh: "kalisaku". [zz123]
"Bandi Gurivinda". [zzzsg]
Bihar: "Sawan",
"Khir". [rrrga]
Gujarat, Vasava tribe: "Kadvishir". [zzzwy]
Madhya Pradesh, Dhar District tribes: "Kadwadodi". [zzziq]
Bombay Presidency, Panch Mahals district, Godhra: "Doda"
Flowers, "Dodi",
Bombay Presidency, Khandesh district, Talda: "Chiri". [zz123]
Marathi: "Hirun Doree". [zzztk]
Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Kavali". [rrrat]
Ahmednagar district: "Phundi". [zz123]
Malayalam: "Watta-kaka-codi". [zzzpm] (v/watta = round, kaka-kodi = "crow-flag" = *Anodendron parviflorum*, Apocynaceae, Apocyneae)
South Rajasthan, Dungarpur District, Sarthuna village: "Kadvidodi". [rrral]
Tamil Nadu, Kancheepuram District: "Kurinjan". [zzzfv]
Tamil: "Cooringee keeray". [zz123]
அங்குணகோலா - “Anguna Kola”,
Sinhala: අඟුණ කොළ - “Anguna Kola”.[rrrcg]
"Kirianguna". [zzzds]
Sanskrit: "hemajivanti". [zz80]
Thailand: "Katung-ma-ba",
"Pak-huan-mu". [zzzsm]
Lahu Hill Tribe: "cu¯ paˬ naˆ tsuhˇ". [zzzjv]
Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai: "ngoan mu". [zzzpu]
Laos: "Bu óc sa". [zzzcv]
China: 南山藤 "nan shan teng" (= south mountain vine). [zz141]
Yunnan, Xishuangbanna, Dai language: "Pagaiwuonu". [zzzkh]
Philippines, Luzon, Pangasinan Province, Bayambang: "bagbagkong". [rrreq]

India, Bihar. Rind of unripe fruit eaten. [rrrga] India, root eaten. Leaves eaten uncooked or boiled. Fruit eaten. Flowers eaten uncooked or prepared into a bhaji. Among the Bhil people of Durgi and other villages in the Dholka Taluka a powder (said to be pollen) is removed from the flowers and used in the preparation of Dhoklas, a small, thick bread. Madras Presidency: leaves used as greens. [zz76] India, Madhya Pradesh, Dhar District tribes, leaves cooked as a vegetable. [zzziq] India, Gujarat, Vasava tribe, young leaves and stems boiled, water discarded, eaten with crushed chili and salt. [zzzwy]

Sri Lanka, leaves in curry. [zzzds]

China, Yunnan, Xishuangbanna. Wild and cultivated, cooked leaf as a vegetable, collected May to October. [zzzkh]

Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai, young leaves from forest used for food. [zzzpu] Thailand, cooked young branches and leaves as vegetables. [zzzsm] Thailand, Lahu Hil Tribe, whole plant eaten with *Codonopsis* (Campanulaceae) and often with chicken by new mothers to hasten milk flow. [zzzjv]

Philippines, Luzon, Pangasinan Province, Bayambang town. Flowers cooked in vegetable recipes. [rrreq]

India, South. Root used as a local subsitute for the Ayurvedic medicine "Murva", officially the root of ***Gongronemopsis tenacissima***. [rrrfx]

The ninth volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1689. One of the plants pictured and described was called Watta-kaka-codi in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the plant as *Wattakaka volubilis*. [zzzpr] The author described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "Root with rice water applied to the part bitten by the hooded cobra makes it without effect. The bark of the root, when pounded and taken with water, serves for headaches, with which women suffer after childbirth."

In the original Latin:

> "*Radix* cum aqua *Oryzæ* parti apposita ictum colubri cobra cabella frustra facit : *Cortex* radicis tritus ac cum aqua sumtus dolori capitis inservit, quo mulieres post partum sunt obnoxiæ." [zzzpm]

India, North Andaman Island, 2 teaspoons of root juice administered vs. snakebite. [zzzsd] India, leaves (peeled and dipped in oil) [zzzdh] much used on boils and abscesses. Roots and tender stalks emetic and expectorant. [zz80]

India, Andhra Pradesh, root extract orally and paste applied vs. snake bite. [zz123] Andhra Pradesh, slightly warmed leaf paste mixed with castor oil as ointment vs. body pain. [zzzsg]

India, Tamil Nadu, Kancheepuram District, leaf paste applied vs. rheumatic pain, cough, fever and severe cold. [zzzfv] Karnataka, Central Western Ghats, root, stem and fruit vs. intertrigo, a rash between folds of skin. [zzzup] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Latex applied vs. skin diseases. [rrrat]

India, South Rajasthan, Dungarpur District, Sarthuna village, Damor Tribe. Leaves vs. dry cough and urine infections. [rrral] Sri Lanka, to promote milk production. [zzzny] Eastern India, Santals, used vs. dropsy, anasarca, sores, lactation failure, rabid jackal bite and snakebite. [zzzlf] Sri Lanka, leaves vs. fever in children. [zzzds]

Vietnam, all parts orally vs. snakebite and eye problems. [zzzny]

China, young leaves vs. pyodermas and fevers in children. Roots emetic. Fine fibres from stem. [zz141, zzzny] Hainan, China, used as medicine. [zz188] Causes sneezing [zz129], when latex from young roots is put in the nose. [zz80] Indo-China, root emetic. Bloom from follicles used in treatment of animals. [zz177]

Strong fibre for ropes. [zzzcv, zzztk]

A small number of good-looking medium-sized leaves selected from 300g of mostly damaged leaves imported from Sri Lanka by a webstore called Ceylon Supermart in Ilford. Advertised as “Anguna Kola”. [rrrcg] Boiled for ten minutes. Texture of some chewy, some melt-in-the-mouth, none fibrous. Taste not anything in particular, an inoffensive leafy taste with some bitterness. The red cabbage risotto I had with them did seem to have much more flavour in between bites of *Stephanotis* leaf. There is perhaps some flavour-enhancer? I intend to try them in a more complicated dish next time. [me 2026]

Stigmatorhynchus umbelliferus **(K. Schum.) Schltr. {Marsdenieae}**
Reported as *Marsdenia umbellifera.*

Kenya, Tanganyika. Medicinal. [zz241]

Stomatostemma monteiroae **(Oliv.) N.E.Br. {Periplocoideae}**
Botswana, Tswapong region: "Masota". [rrrbr]
Ramotswa Village: "Leruswa". See also ***Fockea angustifolia.*** [zzzih]

Botswana, Tswapong region, deseeded unripe green fruits boiled for half an hour, then sliced and sundried. The dried fruit is used as a relish, has a meaty taste and is liked by vegetarians. [rrrbr] Botswana, Ramotswa Village, tubers as a source of water. [zzzih] Southern Africa, fruit as vegetable. [zzznw]

Botswana, various parts for pain relief and vs. stomach and skin infections. [rrrbs]

Streptocaulon baumii see ***Streptocaulon wallichii***

Streptocaulon calophyllum see ***Periploca calophylla***

Streptocaulon chinense see ***Cryptolepis sinensis***

Streptocaulon cumingii **(Turcz.) Fern.-Vill. {Periplocoideae}**

Pygmies use the juice squeezed from stem vs. insect bites. [zz177]

Streptocaulon juventas **(Lour.) Merr.**
Vietnam: "ha thu o trang". [zz233]
"h[af]th[ur] [oo] tr[aws]ng",
"h[af] th[ur] [oo]nam",
"c[ur] v[us] b[of]". [zzzny]
Thailand, "Tamyan-hak-hom" [zzzsm]
"Chukka-ro-hi-ni" [zzzsm],
"Nuai-nang" [zzzsm]
"Noi-nang" [zzzsm]
"Tao-pra-song" [zzzsm],
"Yang-samut-noi" [zzzsm]
Chumphon: "chukka rohini". [zzzny]
Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai: "ker hao hon". [zzzpu]
Nakhon Sawan: "tamyan hak hom",
Prachin Buri: "thao prasong". [zzzny]
Chinese: 暗消藤 "Anxiaoteng". [fffaj] (= “darkness-dispelling vine”?)
"ma lian an" but the Chinese characters spell "an xiao teng". The genus *Streptocaulon* has 馬蓮鞍 (= mǎ lián ān, horse lotus saddle). [zz141]

China, Guangxi. In 1934, WT Tsang noted on the herbarium specimen that "flower pale yellow, edible." Tsang also noted the plant was fairly common. The printed label credits "Collected with the cooperation of Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University". [rrrhu] The mention from *Drugs and Foods from Little-Known Plants: Notes in Harvard University Herbaria* is, presumably, from a similar herbarium sheet. [zz188]

Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai. Root from forest added to the fermented alcoholic drink "U" made from glutinous rice. U is an important symbol of Phu Thai ethnic identity. Other additions include sugarcane, *Alpinia galanga* (Zingiberaceae), *Lepisanthes rubiginosa* (Sapindaceae), *Albizia myriophylla* (Fabaceae), *Paederia linearis* (Rubiaceae), *Oroxylum indicum* (Bignoniaceae), *Harrisonia perforata* (Rutaceae) and *Tacca leontopetaloides* root (Dioscoreaceae). [zzzpu]

Cochinchina (now the Nam Bộ region of Vietnam), reported in 1790 as used for rejuvenating old men:

> "Virtue. It is believed by the local physicians that the root restores the animating spirit, so that by long use ageing men can be returned to youth. It is thought to be the same as the Chinese *Ho Shou Wu*, but this was not obvious to me, on examination the Botanist would prove it: the root, which I have used, has a different form from that of Cochinchina."

In the original Latin:

> "Virtus. Creditur a Medicis indigenis plantae hujus radicem ita spiritus animales recreare, ut longo ejus usu homines senescentes ad juventutem redeant. Idem sentiunt Sinenses de planta *Ho xeu u*, quad eandem esse existimant: sed mihi obvia non fuit, ut examine Botanico probaretur: radix autem, qua usus sum, formam habet a Cochinchinensi diversam." [zz145]

Regarded as the local equivalent of the expensive and desirable rejuvenating Chinese herb Ho Shou Wu (*Polygonum multiflorum*, Polygonaceae), [zz145] called "ha thu o do" in Vietnam. [zz233]

Vietnam, roots have a high reputation as a rejuvenating medicine. Tonic for kidneys and liver. Effective vs. insomnia, bone pain, insufficient milk, leucorrhoea, bloody stool, prurigo and snakebite. Leaves with five other herbs in a pill vs. senility. [zzzny] Vietnam, roots as tonic and vs. anaemia, chronic malaria, rheumatism, menstrual disorders, neurasthenia, dyspepsia. [zz233]

Indo-China, root or tuber as a rejuvenator, vs. eruptions with painful swellings, vs. bloody stools. A preparation of the roots of both male and female plants with the seeds and sarsaparilla used as bitters and moderator. [zz177] See also ***Vincetoxicum hirsutum***.

Thailand, roots vs. fever. Boiled stem as tonic and vs. diarrhoea. Decoction of stem or root with other plants taken orally as an antiseptic. [zzzny]

South China, North Guangxi, Maonan people - Ground wild root decoction orally vs. diarrhea, piles, pneumonia, vitiligo and arrhythmia. Pounded fresh leaf applied vs. snake bite, eczema and vaginitis. [fffaj] China, roots used vs. dysentery, stomachache. Leaves externally vs. snakebite, abscess. [zz141]

***Streptocaulon wallichii* Wight**
Reported as *Streptocaulon baumii*.

Philippines,	Tagalog:	"Hinggiu-kalabau",
		"Hinggiu-na-puti",
		"Sibot-sibotan",
		"Hinggiu-na-puti".
	Iloko:	"Maraipus",
	Pangasinan:	"Sulding". [zz219]

Philippines, used in agricultural ritual. Leaves applied vs. pinworms. [zz188] Used for wound healing. [zz219] Latex much used for wounds. [zzzhd]

Philippines, in demand for manufacturing baskets and other handicrafts. [zzzny]

Sussuela esculenta mas and ***Sussuela esculenta femina*** of Rumphius

Georg Eberhard Rumphius worked on his great work of botany while in the Ambon islands from 1662 until his death in 1704. The fifth volume was published in 1747, long after his death. [zzzms]

Het Amboinsch Kruid-Boek (*Herbarium Amboinense*) included descriptions of several plants using the word "sussuela". Here I will just try to unpick what has been said of the two plants he called *Sussuela esculenta mas* (male edible *sussuela*) and *Sussuela esculenta femina* (female edible *sussuela*).

At no point does Rumphius explain the name *sussuela*. In my opinion, it might be from the Malay "susu" meaning “milky” and "-lah", an emphatic or intensifying suffix. So *sussuela* would mean “very milky”. [me] The word "susu" is a part of the Malayan names of several plants with milky latex, like *Ficus*, *Synadenium*, ***Hoya*** and *Tabernaemontana*. [zzzmo]

Rumphius also records the name "Sajor Maccou" and "Sajor Poppya" for the male plant and "Sajor Maccou Darat" and "Utta Meyt" (beach vegetable) for the female plant. "Sayur" is a Malayan word for edible vegetables. [zzzmo] "Kaley" is another name for the plants, but Rumphius is a little unclear as to which.

> *“Uses.* Tender leaves are eaten raw with vegetable pickle and horseshoe crab eggs; not much very sticky milk and scarcely any bitterness. Tender fruit not more that half a finger long are eaten in the same way, but not when older, when there is nothing in them but flying stuff like silk or kapok, is found. The female, I have observed, in truth is more apt for this, carries a little milk and provides a welcome bitterness.”

In the original Latin:

> *“Usus.* Tenera folia cruda eduntur cum Atsjaar, & Bocassan, non enim multum viscosum gerunt lac, ac vix quandam amaritiem. Teneri fructus non ultra semi digitum longi simili modo eduntur, vetusti vero non, quum in iis nil nisi avolans quasi sericum, seu Capock reperitur. Feminam vero huic rei aptiorem observavi, quum paucum gerit lac, & gratam præbeat amaritiem.” [zzzms]

Identifications of *Sussuela esculenta.*

In 1826 Carl Ludwig Blume described ***Hoya diversifolia*** and referred to the description and illustration by Rumphius simply as "Rumph. Herb. Amb. V. 175. fig. 2." [zzzmr] In Rumphius, the second figure on Tabula 175 is named *Nummulariam* denotat *lacteam minorem* and it is remarked that it agrees with Watta-Kaka-Codi of the *Hortus Malabaricus*. It looks very like a *Hoya*. The only mention in the text is that it is Figura Secunda of Tabula Centesima Septuagesima Quinta. [zzzms]

In 1844, Joseph Decaisne seems to have made a slight error in looking up Blume's references for *Hoya diversifolia*. [zzzly] Decaisne refers to "Sussuela esculenta Rumph Amb. 5, p. 467, t. 175, fig. 2." Both the female and male *Sussuela esculenta* were actually represented in figures in Tabula 173. The only mention of that in the text of Rumphius is that they are pictured in "Tabula Centesima Septuagesima Tertia". I think Decaisne's eye was tricked by the chapter number for *Sussuela esculenta* being LXXV, 75 in Latin numerals. As there were no other Latin numerals in the text, he took that as 175. The Chapter number for the *Nummularia* pictured in Tabula 175 is LXXVII, 77.

Most subsequent botanical descriptions of *Hoya diversifolia* included Decaisne's mistake in their lists of synonyms.

In 1917, Elmer Merrill identified *Sussuela esculenta mas* as ***Cynanchum ovalifolium***. See the entry for that plant. The plant collector Charles Budd Robinson had provided the herbarium specimen [zzzmu] but had thought it represented *Sussuela esculenta femina*. Robinson also reported that the local name on Ambon was "sayor susu laki laki" (= male milk leaf-vegetable). They both referenced the correct Tabula 173 for the picture. They also dismissed Justus Karl Hasskarl's suggestion that *Sussuela esculenta mas* could have been *Secamone lineata*. [zzzmt]

T

***Tacazzea* sp. {Periplocoideae}**
Ethiopia, Konso: "Tombolasha". [zzzfo]

Ethiopia, Konso. Watery roots eaten fresh or cooked when food reserves are low. [zzzfo]

***Tacazzea apiculata* Oliv.**
Reported as *Tacazzea apiculata* var. *benedicta*, *Tacazzea barteri, Tacazzea brazzaeana* and *Tacazzea nigritana.*

French Guinea, Susu: "wak wange". [zz59]
Nigeria, Hausa: "yadiyar kada" (= "crocodile vine",
"yadiyar rafi",
"yadiya dawa",
"yadiya". [rrrhv]
"ya'diyar kada" (= "crocodile's yadiya", see ***Leptadenia lancifolia*** and other spp.) [zz59]
Swaziland: "isimondane",
"Crawcraw Vine" (see also ***Cryptolepis oblongifolia***). [zz144]

Nigeria, Kaduna State, Igabi LGA. Flowers as vegetable. [rrrhv] Flowers edible. [zz59]

Nigeria, Kaduna State, Igabi LGA. Used against a wide range of ailments. The most popular uses being; root powder in milk drunk vs. inflammation, leaves/root boiled in water drunk and as a bath vs. haemorrhoids, root/leaves boiled with natron and drunk vs. cancer and leaves/root as burnt powder orally or inhaled vs. epilepsy. [rrrhv] Leaves rubbed on skin vs. craw-craw (skin parasitism by nematodes). [zz59]

Fishermen anoint their bodies with latex or leaves to attract fish. [zz59]

Latex produces a gutta-like rubber. Stems used for cotton carding bow. [zz59, zzzbr]. Source of rubber. Copious first flow of latex but soon stops. [zzzbr]

Tacazzea barteri see ***Tacazzea apiculata***

Tacazzea brazzaeana see ***Tacazzea apiculata***

Tacazzea conferta **N.E.Br.**
Reported as *Tacazzea galactagoga.*

Ethiopia, Menz Keya Gebreal District: "Shimbrut Hareg". [rrrhw]

Ethiopia, Menz Keya Gebreal District. Leaves vs. snakebite, finely chopped and pounded, drunk until recovery. [rrrhw]

Southeast Kenya, Chyulu Hills. The Swiss collector of the herbarium specimen, Peter René Oscar Bally is reported to have remarked:

> "that the root, which is strongly vanilla-scented, is much sought by natives as a galactagogue for both humans and cattle" [zz45]

Tacazzea galactagoga see ***Tacazzea conferta***

Tacazzea nigritana see ***Tacazzea apiculata***

Talayotea caudata **(A.Gray) L.O.Alvarado {Asclepiadeae - Gonolobinae}**
Previously *Gonolobus caudatus* and *Matelea caudata*.

The genus is named for the Mexican name "talayote" (also talayotle, talayotli, tlalayotli, talayutli). From the Nahuatl "tlalli" = earth, “ayotli” = pumpkin. Used for the edible fruits of *Passiflora arida* (Passifloraceae) and species of ***Asclepias***, ***Chthamalia***, ***Cynanchum***, ***Gonolobus***, ***Ruehssia***, ***Polystemma*** and ***Talayotea***.

Mexico, Sonora: "talayote". [rrrav]

Mexico, Sonora. Immature fruit eaten raw or roasted. [rrrav]

Talayotea trachyantha **(Greenm.) L.O.Alvarado**
Previously *Gonolobus trachyanthus* and *Matelea trachyantha*.

Mexico, Guerrero: "timbuches",
Guerrero & Michoacán: "atuz",
Morelos & Puebla: "cacache",
"cacachi",
Morelos: "pepino de campo",
Oaxaca: "chinduca",
Puebla: "pepinillo",
"pepino silvestre". [rrrav]
"marranita". [zzzqe]
Mixtec: "yuku pi’ndu". [rrrav]

Mexico, Guerrero, Michoacán, Morelos, Oaxaca and Puebla. Immature fruits eaten [the word raw missed out?] or roasted. Fruit sold in markets in Acatlán de Osori, Puebla. [rrrav] Mexico, Puebla, Ixcamilpa de Guerrero, edible (*comestible*). Loma Cajón, fruit cut when tender and eaten raw or roasted. [zzzqe] Mexico, Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley, edible, fodder. [zzzkf]

Tea of root pieces in boiled water vs. diarrhoea. [zzzqe]

Tavaresia barklyi **(Dyer) N.E.Br. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Ovamboland, Kwanyama: "okukato lekadi",
"olukato lendume",
Ndonga: "olukatai". [zzzsl]

Afrikaans: "katstert" (= cat's tail). [zzzsl]
"bergghaap" (= mountain *Hoodia*). [fffav]

Peeled and eaten. [fffav]

Namibia, Ovambo, east of Ondangwa: plant crushed and applied to painful, swollen body parts. [zzzsl]

Telectadium edule **Baill. {Periplocoideae}**

Laos, eaten despite bitterness. [zz237, zzzcv]

Laos, Mun River basin (now entirely in eastern Thailand). In 1875, Francois Harmand noted on the herbarium sheet that the plant grew on all the rocks and banks of rapids of the Mun River basin, giving a characteristic look to the landscape and that it was eaten by the Laotians, despite its bitterness.

In the original French:

> “Cette asclepiad. pousse sur tous les rochers et bancs des rapides, Contribuant à donner au paysage son aspect caracteriel (Mangée malgré son amertume par les Laotiens). [zzzoz, zzzoy]

Mary Endress reported in 2018, without giving any references or sources for the uses of *Telectadium edule*, that:

> "The young fruits, seeds and sometimes leaves of *Telectadium edule* (Periplocoideae), *Morrenia odorata* (Arenas 1999) and *Cynanchum* (*Glossonema*) *boveanum* (Asclepiadoideae-Asclepiadeae, Burkill 1985) are cooked and eaten in a variety of ways." [rrrcl]

Telminostelma foetidum see ***Cynanchum montevidense***

Telosma accedens **(Blume) Backer {Marsdenieae}**
Reported as *Pergularia accedens*.

Malay and Sundanese: "Rak nassi". [zzzch]

Java, the flowers smell nice and are placed between clothes. [zzzcg]

Telosma africana **(N.E.Br.) N.E.Br.**
Benin, Aizo: "Koya". [zzzob]
South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, Tshivenḓa: "nyendanyendane". [zzzov]

Benin, Aizo, Gome village, used as a vegetable. [zzzob] South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District, leaf as vegetable. [zzzov] Southern Africa, leaf as vegetable. [zzznw]

Telosma cordata **(Burm. f.) Merr.**
Also reported as *Telosma odoratissima* and *Pergularia minor*.

China: 夜来香 "ye lai xiang" (= night-arriving fragrance). [zz141]
Thailand: "cowslip creeper". [zz210]
"Sa-lid",
"Kha-chon". [zzzsm]
Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai: "kha chon". [zzzpu]
Kalasin: "Phak kik",
"Dok kik",
"Bak kik".[zzzfq]
Raan Nuch invoice: "ดอกขจร" (dok khajorn = "emanating flower", referring to the scent emanating a long distance). [zzzrk]
India, Udhampur: "Guaal manda". [zzzww]
Vietnam: "thiên lý". [zz102]
Myanmar, Southern Shan State: "Gwe-tauk". [zzzwt]
Java: "Kambang tonkieng". [zzzcg]
"Malatti tonking". [zzzcg]
"Tongkèng". [zzzhh]
Philippines, Spanish: "mil leguas" (= thousand leagues). [zzzmj]

China, flowers in cooking and medicinally vs. conjunctivitis, very fragrant, yielding a perfumed oil. [zz141] Fleshy roots made into a sweetmeat by the Chinese in Java. [zzzhh]

Hong Kong. Not usually sold commercially but available at a Hong Kong market in summer. Whole flower cluster with buds and open flowers soaked to persuade insects to leave. Dropped into soup just before serving. [zz105]

Thailand, Kalasin, used in medicine. Shoots, flowers and fruit eaten. Reported as *Telosma minor*. [zzzfq] Northeast Thailand, collected from forests in the dry season from November to April, sold in markets. Young leaves, flowers and young fruit eaten boiled. Reported as *Telosma minor*. [zzzhe] Thailand, Nakhon Phanom Province, Phu Thai, cultivated for shoots and flowers used as food. [zzzpu] Thailand, flowers and young follicles as vegetables. Ornamental. [zzzsm]

India, Udhampur, raw flowers as vegetable. [zzzww]

Vietnam, Thanh Hoa province, cultivated for flowers used in food and medicine. [zz102]
Myanmar, Southern Shan State, tender leaves for soup with chicken. Consumed in food as medicine vs. alcohol dependence. [zzzwt]

Stir-fried, the flowers contain 46.7 - 77.6 mg of Vitamin C per 100g. [zz210]

Indo-China, diuretic, used vs. kidney and bladder diseases. Stems poisonous to pigs. [zz177]

Java, used for making garlands and scenting clothes. [zzzcg]

The fragrance of the flowers has geraniol, β-ionone and dihydro-β-ionone as the major components, giving rose and violet notes. The "diffusiveness" or wide dispersion of perfume that gives the genus its name, from the ancient Greek *τῆλε* far *ὀσμή* scent, is due to β-ionone. [zz23a] Rose and violet are the characteristic notes of the commercial perfume called Chanel No. 5, and this plant has been called the Chanel No. 5 vine in various places. [me]

I bought a few packets of flower buds online from Raan Nuch in Wigan at £2.50 for 100g. [zzzrk] They were not in good condition when they arrived, despite being notified as soon as they came in. I ended up with 92 grammes of trimmed flowerbuds. Simmered for 4 minutes. 280mg salt sprinkled on at the last moment. A mild flavour rather like green beans or pea pods with just a hint of bitterness. Enough sweetness for a vegetable. Easy to chew, not melting in the mouth like the ***Asclepias syriaca*** flowerbuds but lots of tasty juice. Easy to eat a whole serving. The aftertaste has hints of globe artichoke. The water it was boiled in tasted much more of globe artichoke when drunk half an hour after finishing the flowerbuds. No hint of floral scent, definitely no rose or violet. Though I can hardly smell orris root, so I may not be able to detect β-ionone. [me, 2022]

The tender young shoots and leaves are tasty and noticeably sweet, eaten fresh off a plant grown under lights. I have not managed to flower it yet. [me, 2025]

Telosma odoratissima see ***Telosma cordata***

Telosma pallida **(Roxb.) W. G. Craib**

India, Uttar Pradesh, Gorakhpur District: "lakhan". [zzzwq]
Gujarat, Vasava tribe: "Varshadodi". [zzzwy]
South Rajasthan, Dungarpur District, Sarthuna village: "Morasvilo". [rrral]
Thailand: "Salit-ka" [zzzsm]
"Salit-pa" [zzzsm]

India, Gujarat, Junagadh region, flowers and leaf commonly used as a vegetable. [zzzwo]
India, Gujarat, Vasava tribe, tender leaves as leafy vegetable, boiled or stir-fried with spices. [zzzwy]

Thailand, flowers and young follicles as vegetables. Flowers not fragrant. [zzzsm]

India, Uttar Pradesh, Gorakhpur District, leaf decoction used vs. swelling of body. [zzzwq] Uttar Pradesh, Vindhyan region, Kol tribes, fruit latex and fruit paste applied to white patches vs. leucoderma. The patient then sits in the sun for 20-30 minutes. Also applied for the whole night. One case followed by the author of the paper was much improved after 6 months. [zzzwp] India, South Rajasthan, Dungarpur District, Sarthuna village, Damor Tribe. Latex vs. vitiligo. [rrral]

Telosma procumbens **(Blanco) Merr.**
Philippines, Ilocos Norte: "ampupuyat".
"kapas-kapas".
"pusa-pusa".
"padpadol".
"bagbagkong".
"ampupuyat". [zzzwr]
Philippines, Spanish: "mil leguas" (= thousand leagues). [zzzmj]

Philippines, Ilocos Norte & Palawan. Immature fruits roasted in "dinengdeng" (vegetable stew). Inflorescence for salad. Inflorescence, new shoots and young leaves, fruits mixed with other vegetables in "dinengdeng". [zzzwr] Philippines. Young fruits cooked and eaten by Filipinos. [zzzmj]

Vietnam, substitute for liquorice for its sweet taste, as expectorant and vs. coughs. Contains at least 18 polyoxypregnane steroid glycosides, one of which, telosmoside A_{15}, has 1000 times the sweetness of sucrose by weight. [zz106]

Philippines, infusion or decoction of leaves used vs. scabies, ulcers and wounds. Leaves applied vs. headache.[zz106]

Infusion of leaves to cleanse wounds, ulcers and scabies. Leaves applied to forehead vs. headache. Fresh stems and leaves poisonous to pigs. [zz177]

Telosma tomentosa see ***Pergularia tomentosa***

Tenaris schultzei see ***Brachystelma schultzei***

Toxocarpus villosus **(Blume) Decne**. **{Secamonoideae}**
Java: "serut rambat". [zzzny]
Vietnam: "d[aa]y g[as]o v[af]ng".
"ti[eex]u qu[ar] l[oo]ng". [zzzny]

Java, leafy twigs vs. sprue (a mouth and throat disease).

Vietnam, whole plant extract vs. rheumatism, oedema, jaundice and as a diuretic. [zzzny]

Toxocarpus wightianus **Hook. & Arn.**
China: 弓果藤"gong guo teng" (= bow fruit vine). [zz141]

China, all parts externally vs. traumatic injury and boils. [zz141]

Trichocaulon spp. see ***Hoodia*** spp.

Trichosacme lanata **Zucc. {Asclepiadeae – Gonolobinae}**
Also called *Matelea lanata.*

Mexico, Tamaulipas: "telenpacate",
"tácate". [fffay]

Mexico, Tamaulipas. Latex vs. superficial wounds, swelling, and some skin cinditions like pimples and rashes. The furry leaves are applied to lacerations and as poultices. [fffay]

Tridentea **spp. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**

Southern Africa. Stems eaten when turgid after rains. [zzzow]

Tridentea marientalensis **(Nel) L.C.Leach**

Southern Africa. Whole plant listed as unknown food use. [zzznw][rrrcs]

Tweedia brunonis **Hook. & Arn. {Asclepiadeae - Oxypetalinae}**
Argentina, Mendoza, Agua Escondida y las serranías del Nevado: "yerba del pujo". [zzzje]

Argentina, Mendoza, Agua Escondida y las serranías del Nevado. Infusion of whole plant vs. indigestion. [zzzje]

Tylophora asthmatica see ***Vincetoxicum indicum*** **var.** ***indicum***

Tylophora atrofolliculata see ***Vincetoxicum hirsutum (Wall.) Kuntze***

Tylophora biglandulosa see ***Vincetoxicum biglandulosum***

Tylophora blumei see ***Marsdenia stenocentra***
.
Tylophora brevipes see ***Vincetoxicum brevipes***

Tylophora browni(i) see ***Vincetoxicum brownii***

Tylophora cissoides see ***Vincetoxicum cissoides***

Tylophora conspicua see ***Vincetoxicum conspicuum***

Tylophora dalzellii see ***Vincetoxicum dalzellii***

Tylophora fasciculata Buch.-Ham. ex Wight see ***Vincetoxicum fasciculatum* (Buch.-Ham. ex Wight) Kuntze**.
Tylophora fasciculata Thwaites would be *Vincetoxicum iphisia* Meve & Liede, but I got no uses.

Tylophora flanaganii see ***Vincetoxicum flanaganii***

Tylophora flexuosa see ***Vincetoxicum flexuosum***

Tylophora floribunda Miq. see ***Vincetoxicum floribundum* (Miq.) Franch. & Sav.**
Tylophora floribunda Benth. would be the Australian *Vincetoxicum polyanthum* Kuntze but that is not in this book. Not to be confused with the Australian *Vincetoxicum floribundum* (R.Br.) Kuntze for which see ***Cynanchum floribundum* R.Br.**

Tylophora glabra see ***Vincetoxicum renchangii***

Tylophora henryi see ***Vincetoxicum henryanum***

Tylophora hirsuta see ***Vincetoxicum hirsutum***

Tylophora indica see ***Vincetoxicum indicum***

Tylophora kerrii see ***Vincetoxicum kerrii***

Tylophora koi see ***Vincetoxicum koi***

Tylophora longifolia see ***Vincetoxicum longifolium***

Tylophora mollissima see ***Vincetoxicum hirsutum* *(Wall.) Kuntze***

Tylophora oblonga see ***Vincetoxicum oblongum***

Tylophora oculata see ***Vincetoxicum oculatum***

Tylophora ovata see ***Vincetoxicum hirsutum* (Wall.) Kuntze**

Tylophora perrottetiana see ***Vincetoxicum flexuosum* var. *perrottetianum***

Tylophora rotundifolia see ***Vincetoxicum rotundifolium***

Tylophora secamonoides see ***Vincetoxicum secamonoides***

Tylophora sylvatica see ***Vincetoxicum sylvaticum***

Tylophora tapeinogyne see ***Vincetoxicum biglandulosum***

Tylophora tenuis see ***Vincetoxicum flexuosum* var. *tenuis***

Tylophora tetrapetala see ***Vincetoxicum flexuosum* var. *tenuis***

Tylophora yunnanensis see ***Vincetoxicum yunnanense***

Tylophora zeylanica see ***Vincetoxicum zeylanicum***

U

Utleria salicifolia see ***Decalepis salicifolia***

The only currently recognised genus in the Apocynaceae that begins with U is *Urceola*, which is in the subfamily Apocynoideae, so not an asclepiad.

V

Vailia anomala **(Brandegee) W.D.Stevens {Asclepiadeae - Metastelmatinae}**
Reported as *Blepharodon mucronatus*.

Mexico,	Quintana Roo, Maya:	"ono ak' ",
		"chak kankel xiw",
		"huik'inxiw",
		"xjuul k'iin xiw",
		"pulukxonak' ". [rrrep]
	Oaxaca:	"Paxapaa'aats". [rrrhx]
Mexico/Central America:	"chununa de caballe". [zz237]	

Mexico, Oaxaca, Juchitán. On the herbarium sheet from 2014, the collectors have noted that the fruit is edible - "fruto comestible". [rrrhx] Mexico, Oaxaca. Used in food and as an ornamental. [rrrep]

Mexico, Guerrero, Yoloxóchitl. On the herbarium sheet from 2017, three local informants all state that this plant is edible like "chipil" - *Crotalaria* species (Leguminosae) leaves and shoots that are collected as weeds from the fields and cooked as vegetables. In Spanish: "Son comestibles como chipil." [rrrhy]

Mexico/C. America. Crushed leaves vs. snakebite. Juice considered antiseptic. [zz237]
Mexico, Quintana Roo. Medicinal. [rrrep]

Vincetoxicum **spp. {Asclepiadeae – Tylophorinae}**

The generic name is derived from the Latin for "Conqueror of Poisons". The herb was used to provoke vomiting and purging to rid the body of poison so as little as possible was absorbed from the stomach and gut. If poison was still in the digestive system, it would be washed out with the vomit and diarrhoea that this plant causes.

This genus might include the original Asklepias (ἀσκληπιάς) of Dioscorides, which has often been identified as ***Vincetoxicum hirundinaria***. [zzzde] Others deny that it was. [rrrhc] The description given by Dioscorides is far too vague to be certain. Many of the medicinal plants he described are of uncertain identity unless they are obvious like roses and beans.

The same name was used for other plants, perhaps the sweet laurel (*Laurus nobilis*, Lauraceae), white hellebore (*Veratrum album*, Melanthiaceae) [zz142] and dragons (*Dracunculus vulgaris*, Araceae).[rrrdw]

Though the word looks very similar, there is no ancient source that I know of in Greek or Latin that links the plant Asklepias with the god of healing Asklepios. The earliest reference I have found to a link between the two is in the entry for *Vincetoxicum hirundinaria* in the 1554 *CruijdeBoeck* by Rembert Dodoens (my Google Translate-assisted Englishing, I do not know Dutch).

> "This herb bears a fine name after the ancient Æsculapius, who is called Asclepios in Greek. To whom the Greeks and pagans attribute that he was the first to discover the art of medicine, and for that reason was also considered and revered as a god by the same."

In the original Dutch:

> "Dit cruyt heeft fijnen naem naer den ouden Æsculapius die in Griecx Asclepios ghenaempt wordt. Dien die Griecke ende Heydenen toe scrijven dat hy die ierste geweest es die de conste der Medecynen ghevonden heeft / ende daer om oock voor een god van den selven ghehouwen ende gheeert."[rrrdv]

The front page of the *CruijdeBoeck* was ornamented with a complex mess of images with many humanoid figures - including Æsculapius reclining on a meadow slope with a large snake in one hand and a fistful of herbs in the other, next to Pomona the Roman goddess of Fruit. [rrrdv] It seems probable the two names are linked but it is perhaps equally likely that the god was named after the plant or both are named for an unknown word. [me]

***Vincetoxicum acuminatifolium* (Hemsl.) Ohi-Toma & K.Mochizuki**
Reported as *Cynanchum acuminatifolium* and *Cynanchum ascyrifolium* but *Vincetoxicum* x *ascyrifolium* seems now to be reserved for plants found in Japan, not those in Mainland Asia, like these in Korea and China.

Korea: 민백미꽃 [rrrid] "Min-baek-mee-kot". [zzzcz]
China: 潮 風 草 "chao feng cao" (= tidal wind grass). [zz141]

Korea, root antipyretic, diuretic. [zzzcz] Korea, used as ***Vincetoxicum atratum***. [zz177]
Korea. Medicinal. [rrrid]

China, root diuretic. [zz141]

***Vincetoxicum amplexicaule* Siebold & Zucc.**
Usually reported as *Cynanchum amplexicaule* and *Cynanchum amplexicaule* var. *castaneum.*

China: 合掌消 "he zhang xiao". [zz141]
China: "zǐ huā hé zhǎng xiāo" [rrrbz]

Traditional Chinese Medicine. One of the alternative species used as *bái wēi* instead of ***Vincetoxicum atratum*** or ***Vincetoxicum versicolor***. [rrrbz]

China, Henan and North Jiangxi provinces, substitute for ***Vincetoxicum atratum***. [zz177] China, all parts vs. traumatic injury, rheumatic joint pain and swellings. [zz141] Whole plant vs. swelling, poisoning, bruises and rheumatism. [zzzip] Korea. Medicinal. [rrrid]

Vincetoxicum arabicum **(Arn.) Thulin**
Also known as *Cynanchum defoliascens*, *Cynanchum fruticulosum*, *Vincetoxicum fruticulosum* and *Blyttia fruticulosa*.

Kenya,	Pokot:	"chepanyinda",
	Turkana:	"elagama" [zzzwm] (= "a ring"). [rrrhz]
Somaliland:	"Nyuri". [zz45]	
Ethiopia,	Konso:	"Lamtta". [zzzfo]
	Southeastern, Mana Angetu District:	"Joshani". [zzzjb]

Ethiopia, Somali Region. In 1969, JJFE De Wilde noted on a herbarium sheet that: "Local Somalis eat the fruit green." [rrria] Ethiopia, Konso, fruit eaten even when food reserves are good. [zzzfo] Djibouti, Afar people, fresh fruits as a vegetable. [zz198]

Northern Kenya, Pokot, medicinal and food use. Turkana, medicinal and domestic use, not food. [zzzwm]

Kenya, Lokori. In 1970, the plant collector B[rian?) Mathew recorded a custom of the Turkana people on the herbarium sheet. Mathew also noted that the Turkana name "elagama" means "a ring", see also ***Pentatropis nivalis***.

> "Used at weddings - a ring of
> this is made and put round the woman's
> neck." [rrrhz]

Kenya, Turkana, an infusion of the aerial parts vs. painful menstruation. [zz198] Southeastern Ethiopia, Mana Angetu District, fresh stem bark crushed, boiled and drunk vs. vomit, diarrhoea. [zzzjb] Somaliland, plant used medicinally. [zz45]

Vincetoxicum arnottianum **(Wight) Wight**
Reported as *Cynanchum arnottianum.*

Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan,	Brahui:	"Jauri kani",
		"Kuri".
	Balochi:	"Bhankalink". [zzzcp]

Iran/Pakistan, Balochistan, powdered shade-dried leaf (not sun-dried) applied to maggot-infected wounds in animals to kill maggots. [zzzcp]

Vincetoxicum x *ascyrifolium* see ***Vincetoxicum acuminatifolium***

***Vincetoxicum atratum* (Bunge) C.Morren & Decne.**
Usually reported as *Cynanchum atratum.*

China: "bái wēi" [rrrbz]
"xiāng bái wēi" (= “fragrant cynanchum”). [rrrbz]
"nèn bái wēi" (= “tender cynanchum”). [rrrbz]
白薇"bai wei" [zz141]
白薇"Baiwei”. [fffaj]
China, Maonan: “lau²tɕiŋ⁵xi⁵”. [fffaj]
Japan: “Funabara-sō”,
“Rokuon-sō”. [zzzra]

Collected in spring and fall. Antipyretic and diuretic. Regarded as equivalent to ***Vincetoxicum versicolor***. [zzzax] Traditional Chinese Medicine. One of the two main species used as *bái wēi* with *Vincetoxicum versicolor*. The first known mention in literature was in the *Divine Husbandman's Classic of the Materia Medica*, probably written before 200 AD. [rrrbz]

China, Northeast, Taihang Mountains. Root, stem decoction orally "for clearing heat and cooling blood, diuresis and detoxicating, anti-tumor and anti-inflammatory effect, treating for syncope, lymphangitis". [rrrha]

Overdose can be toxic, affecting the heart. [rrrbz]

Korea. Root for pregnant women and during childbirth, used vs. fevers, excessive urination and externally vs. wounds. Very fragrant roots collected in May and June as the buds come out. [zz177] Korea. Medicinal. [rrrid]

China/Japan/Taiwan, root depurative, urinary organ tonic and vs. urinary incontinence, bloody urine and many fevers. The whole plant of daisy relative *Gerbera piloselloides* Cass. has been used as a substitute. [zz177] China, root vs. urinary tract infection, gonorrhoea, oedema, bronchitis and rheumatic joint pain. [zz141] Roots, stems vs. heat toxins, insufficiency of vital energy and blood, fever. [zzzip] South China, North Guangxi, Maonan people – Wild root made into medicinal liquor used vs. rheumatic arthritis. [fffaj]

See also ***Vincetoxicum amplexicaule, Vincetoxicum inamoenum, Vincetoxicum bungei, Vincetoxicum versicolor*** and ***Vincetoxicum forrestii.***

***Vincetoxicum auriculatum* (Royle ex Wight) Kuntze**
Usually reported as *Cynanchum auriculatum.*

China: "er ye niu pi xiao", [zzzau]
"baishouwu". [zzzgh]
"牛皮消 Niupixiao”,
Maonan: “gʔɛ²lin⁵xiao⁵”. [fffaj]

China, root famous tonic medicine, widely used. Southwest China, Tujia and Miao. Used vs. stomachache, indigestion. [zzzgh] South China. Famous, roots used vs. hair greying, strengthening sinews and bones, enhancing immunity. [zzzgm] China. Used the same as ***Vincetoxicum bungei***. [zzzau] Roots used vs. coughing, neurasthenia, gastric/duodenal ulcers, nephritis, etc. [zzzip]

China. Follicle with numerous seeds cooked with brown sugar and pork used vs. tuberculosis, haemorrhage and other internal injuries. [zz177]

South China, North Guangxi, Maonan people. Wild root boiled with meat and soup drunk vs. infantile "dry-sickness" and malnutrition. [fffaj]

China, south of Yangtze River, root cold infusion vs. aphids. Mixed into bait vs. rats. [zzzks] Plant insecticide. [zz177]

***Vincetoxicum biglandulosum* (Endl.) Kuntze**
Reported as *Tylophora biglandulosa* and *Tylophora tapeinogyne*.

New Caledonia, Loyalty Islands, Maré: "Hneg",
"Hnego",
"Hnegu". [zzzeq]

New Caledonia, Loyalty Islands, Maré. Used vs. allergies, toothache. [zzzeq] New Caledonia, Loyalty & Grand Terre Islands, cathartic and vs. wounds. [zzzew]

***Vincetoxicum brevipes* (Turcz.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora brevipes.*

Philippines, Cagayan: "Bugnéi",
Ilocos Norte: "sarungkád",
"sarungkár",
Zambales Tagalog: "pasúka",
Pangasinan: "dail",
"sayongkál". [zzzhd]

Philippines, roots emetic, as a substitute for ipecac. Also specific vs. colic and as an emmenagogue. [zzzhd] Philippines, diaphoretic, expectorant. Roots chewed and swallowed vs. indigestion. [zz177]

***Vincetoxicum brownii* (Hayata) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora browni(i)*.

Taiwan, stem crushed for juice used vs. wounds. [zz177]

***Vincetoxicum bungei* (G.Don) Cai F.Zhang & G.W.Hu**
Usually reported as *Cynanchum bungei* and *Cynanchum paniculatum* (Bunge) Kitag. *ex* H.Hara. Not to be confused with the Australian *Vincetoxicum paniculatum* (R.Br.) Kuntze.

As *Cynanchum bungei*:
China: 白首烏 "bai shou wu". [zz141, zzzat]

As *Cynanchum paniculatum*:
China: "xú cháng qīng" [zz5a] (= “slow long-lasting minister”),
"liáo diāo zhú" (= “shed crafty bamboo”),
"liáo xí zhú" (= “shed practice bamboo”). [rrrbz]
徐長卿 "xu chang qing". [zz141]
徐長卿 "Xuchangqing”,
Maonan: “ta⁶ʔnu²”. [fffaj]

As *Cynanchum bungei*:
China, tuber vs. consequences of enduring illness, anaemia, early greying, chronic wind impediment, limp aching loins and knees, piles, bleeding gut, chronic malaria, chronic ulcerating sore, constipation in the elderly. [zzzat]

China, root tuber vs. lumbago, neurasthenia, insomnia. Basis of important tonic. [zz141] Root vs. physical weakness, insomnia, forgetful dreams and skin itching. [zzzip]

As *Cynanchum paniculatum*:
Traditional Chinese Medicine. One of the alternative species used as *bái wēi* instead of ***Vincetoxicum atratum*** or ***Vincetoxicum versicolor***. [rrrbz]

China, all parts vs. stomachache, enteritis, infantile malnutrition due to intestinal parasites, toothache, traumatic injury, snakebites. [zz141] China, vs. pain, skin disease, chronic bronchitis or asthma. Dose 3-12g. [zz251] Root/rhizome as sedative and vs. rheumatoid arthritis, traumatic injuries, urticaria and eczema. [zz221] Due to its wide use as a medicine it is called "Drug King". [zz188]

Root vs. pain in joints, loins, abdomen and stomach duct, teeth, and from knocks and falls. Also vs. damp eczema, urticaria and chronic lichen (skin disease). [zzzat] Root used to drive away evil effluvia. Root acrid, somewhat deleterious vs. marasmus, nervous affections, car and sea sickness. Sometimes confused in Chinese works with *Gastrodia elata* (Orchidaceae) and *Macroclinidium verticillatum* (Asteraceae). [zz218] China, used vs. nervous disorders, marasmus (wasting disorders) and vertigo. [zz177] South China, North Guangxi, Maonan people - Decoction of ground root or whole plant orally for enteritis and diarrhea. [fffaj]

Traditional Chinese Medicine. Used vs. epigastric pain, toothache, dysmenorrhoea, injuries from falls and bruises, itching from skin afflictions. Helps with the diarrhoea and stomach upsets experienced when travelling. Though safe at the therapeutic dosage, overdoses should be avoided. [rrrbz]

Korea, roots for pregnant women and in childbirth, vs. excessive urination, fever and externally vs. severe wounds. [zz177] Korea. Medicinal. [rrrid]

The first known mention in literature was in the *Divine Husbandman's Classic of the Materia Medica*, probably written before 200AD. [rrrbz]

Snakes will not enter a house with this plant. [zz188] Used vs. snake bite. [zz141, zzzat, rrrbz] While it might seem strange that this is the most popular remedy for snake bite in China there is some scientific support for this use. [zz161] The tuber contains as much as 4.3% of paeonol [zz221], 2-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenylethanone. This is a very similar compound to those found in the snake bite cure *Hemidesmus indicus*, see that entry for more on snake bites. Paeonol is also found in the roots of the moutan or tree pæony - *Paeonia x suffruticosa* (Paeoniaceae) and other pæonies used in medicine. Paeonol has been tested for a bewildering number of pharmacological effects in the laboratory, especially anti-inflammatory and anti-atherosclerosis. It has shown a powerful protective effect on the livers of mice during an involuntary 8 week alcoholic bender. [zz104]

Taste test: dried roots bought from a Chinese herbalist, £2.50 for 50g. [zz5a] The shopkeeper remarked that the root is "a little poisonous" and that the maximum dose should be 12g. Made into a tea with 3g of root (broken slightly between the fingers) to 300ml of boiling water it made a very pleasant naturally-sweet drink. No overwhelming tastes or smell but a well-balanced liquorice/sarsaparilla/pæony root flavour and a sweet odour with hints of aniseed and mushroom. No nasty aftertaste, staying sweet in the mouth for some time. [me]

***Vincetoxicum canescens* (Willd.) Decne.**
Reported as *Cynanchum canescens*.

Nepal, Gurung: "Dhugmoyung".

Nepal. Flower and leaves powdered with boiled water taken orally vs. cold and cough, diarrhoea, dysentery, kidney disease, fever and stomach ache. Fresh flower and seed juices applied vs. ear pain. [zzzcf]

***Vincetoxicum cernuum* (Decne.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Microstephanus cernuus*.

Malagasy, Tandroy: "vahimasy" (= powerful medicine vine). [zzzrd]

Madagascar. Infusion vs. dysentery. [zzzrd]

***Vincetoxicum chekiangense* (M.Cheng) C.Y.Wu & D.Z.Li**
Reported as *Cynanchum chekiangense*.

China: 蔓剪草 "man jian cao". [zz141]

China. Roots vs. traumatic injury and scabies. [zz141] South China. Roots vs. rheumatoid arthritis and rheumatic aches. [zzzfy]

***Vincetoxicum chinense* S.Moore**
Reported as *Cynanchum mooreanum*.

Whole plant vs. sores, scabies. [zzzip]

***Vincetoxicum cinerascens* (R.Br.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Marsdenia cinerascens.*

Australia, Northern Territory. Fruit poisonous, should not be confused with the edible fruit of ***Leichhardtia australis***. [zzziw]

***Vincetoxicum cissoides* (Blume) Kuntze**
Reported as *Tylophora cissoides*.

Java: "Aroy peutjiet hayam". [zzzcg]
"Boentali ojod",
Malay: "Areuj peudjit hajam". [zzzhh]

Indonesia. Leaves internally and externally used vs. abdominal pain. Roots and leaves used vs. thrush. [zz177]

Java. Leaves externally vs. abdominal pain. [zzzcg] Root and leaves vs. thrush and applied vs. intestinal spasms. [zzzhh]

***Vincetoxicum conspicuum* (N.E.Br.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora conspicua.*

Gold Coast (now Ghana), Ashanti: "abĕkammo".

Ground leaves mixed with peppers, put on fire then applied to yaws (serious bacterial ulcers). Roots mixed with Guinea pepper as enema vs. lower back pain. Pounded leaves applied vs. ulcers and wounds. [zz59, zzzbr]

***Vincetoxicum dalzellii* (Hook.f.) Kuntze**
Previously *Tylophora dalzellii*.

Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar: "Kavali". [rrrat]

India, Bombay area. The bitter infusion of leaves vs. asthma with good results. [zz196] India, Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purandhar. Leaf and stem powder internally vs. asthma. [zzzns] Maharashtra, NW Ahmednagar. Glass of water extract of root, orally vs. fever. [rrrat] Maharashtra, leaves and flowers eaten vs. asthma. [zzzpk] Very similar plant to ***Vincetoxicum indicum var. indicum***.

Vincetoxicum diplostigma **Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Diplostigma canescens.*

Northern Kenya, Pokot: "chepanyinda". [zzzwm]

Northern Kenya, Pokot. Food use. [zzzwm]

Vincetoxicum erianthum see ***Gonolobus erianthus***

Vincetoxicum fasciculatum **(Buch.-Ham. ex Wight) Kuntze**
Previously *Tylophora fasciculata* Buch.-Ham. ex Wight but not *Tylophora fasciculata* Thwaites which is *Vincetoxicum iphisia*, not in this book.

India, Maharashtra: "Bhindodi",
"Bhui-dari". [zzzpk]

Maharashtra. Root juice with milk as tonic. [zzzpk]

India, Telangana, Wanaparthy, Tirumalaiah Gutta Sacred Grove. Medicinal. [zzzqs]

Vincetoxicum flanaganii **(Schltr.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora flanaganii*.

South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, medicinal for "Gastro-intestinal". No further details. [zzziz]

Vincetoxicum flexuosum **(R.Br.) Kuntze**
Previously called *Tylophora flexuosa* and *Tylophora tenuis.*

India, West Bengal, Bengali: "Antamul". [zzzxm]

Malay Peninsula. Leaves vs. scabies. [zz177] India, West Bengal, Purba Medinipur district. Leaf juice vs. urinary disorder and snakebite. [zzzxm]

Vincetoxicum flexuosum **var.** ***perrottetianum*** **(Decne.) Schneidt, Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora perrottetiana* and *Cynanchum tenellum* Blanco.

Philippines, Iloko: "maraípus ti bákes". [zzzhd]
Union: "Kul-langém". [zzzhd] (with one squiggle over both the n and g, Character Map has it but I can't get it to work).

Philippines, reported in 1921, leaves with "wonderful effect" vs. wounds. [zzzhd] In 1837, reported as having an astonishing ability to cure wounds, even mortal ones. The author Manuel Blanco stated this had absolutely no foundation. In the original Spanish:

> “Sus virtudes para curar las heridas por mortales que sean, son asombrosas segun los indios; pero todo ello no tiene fundamento alguno.“ [fffac]

***Vincetoxicum flexuosum* var. *tenuis* (Blume) Schneidt, Meve & Liede**
Previously called *Tylophora tetrapetala*.

Malayalam: "Parparam". [zzzpm]

The ninth volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1689. One of the plants pictured and described was called "Parparam" in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the plant as *Tylophora tetrapetala*. [zzzpr] The author of *Horti Malabarici* described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "The juice of the leaves, together with Lemon* juice, in infants who suffer from belly-ache, and others who are showing illness with spasmodic fever. Oil, mixed and applied externally, corrects defects of the eyes, but more effectively if at the same time a decoction prepared from the juice is taken."

* Or Lime or something similar, the definitions were still fluid for *Citrus* varieties.

In the original Latin:

> "*Foliorum succus* cum succo *Limonis* infantibus ventre dolentibus , aliisque spasmodica febre ægrotantibus exhibetur. *Oleo* mixtus atque ettrinsecè adhibitus, oculorum vitia corrigit, efficacius autem, si quando decoctum, ex eodem succo præparatum, assumatur." [zzzpm]

India, Car Nicobar Island. Paste of leaves with *Morinda citrifolia* (Rubiaceae) and coconut oil rubbed on body vs. pain during fever. Leaves with *Morinda citrifolia* leaves mixed with water and taken vs. fevers. [zzzjp]

***Vincetoxicum floribundum* (Miq.) Franch. & Sav.**
Reported as *Tylophora floribunda* Miq. Not to be confused with *Tylophora floribunda* Benth. which is the Australian *Vincetoxicum polyanthum* Kuntze but that is not in this book. But also not to be confused with the Australian *Vincetoxicum floribundum* (R.Br.) Kuntze for which see ***Cynanchum floribundum* R.Br.**

China: 娃儿藤 "wa er teng" [zzzat][zz141],
"duo hua wa er teng" (= many-flowered tylophora). [zz141]

China, root vs. pain in joints, teeth, abdomen (with swelling), knocks and falls. Also vs. fright-wind in children, summerheat stroke and phlegmy asthma with cough. [zzzat] China, roots vs. infantile convulsions, diphtheria, traumatic injury, toothache and snake bites. [zz141]

***Vincetoxicum forrestii* (Schltr.) C.Y.Wu & D.Z.Li**
Reported as Cynanchum forrestii.

China: "bai wei". [zzzba]
大理白前 "da li bai qian". [zz141]

China, decoction of subterranean parts vs. diarrhoea, hip pain and congestion. See also ***Vincetoxicum atratum*** and ***Vincetoxicum versicolor***. [zzzba] China, roots diuretic, pain relieving. [zz141] Roots, to accelerate healing and reduce pain. [zzzip]

Vincetoxicum fruticulosum see ***Vincetoxicum arabicum***

***Vincetoxicum glaucescens* (Decne.) C.Y.Wu & D.Z.Li**
Usually reported as *Cynanchum glaucescens.*

China: "yuán huā bái qián" [rrrbz] (= “first? flower white before”).
白前 "bai qian". [zz141, zzzax]

Traditional Chinese Medicine. One of the two main species used as *bái qián* with ***Vincetoxicum stauntonii***. [rrrbz] Used the same as *Vincetoxicum stauntonii*. [zzzax] The first known mention in literature was in the *Miscellaneous Records of Famous Physicians*, probably written around 500AD. [rrrbz]

Can be irritating to the stomach walls. Mostly used for lung problems. The best quality consists of just the hollow rhizomes with no roots. [rrrbz]

China, roots vs. phlegm, coughs. [zz141]

***Vincetoxicum henryanum* Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora henryi.*

China: 紫花娃儿藤 "zi hua wa er teng" (= purple flower tylophora). [zz141]

China, roots vs. rheumatoid arthritis and snake bites. [zz141]

***Vincetoxicum hirsutum* (Wall.) Kuntze**
Not to be confused with *Vincetoxicum hirsutum* (Michx.) Britton, now called ***Odontostephana carolinensis (Jacq.) Alexander***. Also reported as *Tylophora atrofolliculata* F.P.Metcalf, *Tylophora mollissima* Wall. ex Wight, *Tylophora ovata* (Lindl.) Hook. ex Steud., *Tylophora hirsuta* Wight and *Gymnema hirsutum* Wall. but is not the same as *Gymnema hirsutum* Wight & Arn., for which see ***Gymnema decaisneanum* Wight.**

China: 娃儿藤"wa er teng". [zz141]
"bě bèn". [zz250]
"luan ye wa er teng" as *Tylophora ovata.* [zzzau]
"san fen dan" as *Tylophora atrofolliculata.* [zzzau]
"mian mao wa er teng" as *Tylophora mollissima*. [zzzau]
Pakistan, Attock district: "Glow". [zzztd]
Buner District, Chagharzai Valley: "Gilo". [zzzph]

China, roots vs. leukaemia, asthma, snake bites, traumatic injury. [zz141] China, Hainan, decoction of toasted leaf/root, massage or orally vs. cold, poisoning. [zz250]

China, root vs. fevers, sore throat, abscess and snakebite as *Tylophora ovata*. Root vs. joint pain, painful swelling from knocks and falls, as *Tylophora atrofolliculata*. Whole plant vs. common cold with fever, lung heat cough and asthma as *Tylophora mollissima*. [zzzau]

Has been identified as the rejuvenating herb of de Loureiro, see ***Streptocaulon juventas***. [zzzcv]

South China, root, whole plant powder or cold infusion vs. lice, maggots. Mixed into bait vs. rats. [zzzks]

Pakistan, Attock district, leaves or fresh stems used in mixtures with other herbs vs. diabetes. One mixture with *Aloe vera* (Xanthorrhoeaceae) fresh leaves and stems and *Fagonia cretica* (Zygophyllaceae) fresh aerial parts. The other mixture contains fenugreek seed (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*, Leguminosae) and *Fumaria indica* (Papaveraceae) aerial parts. [zzztd]

Pakistan, Buner District, Chagharzai Valley, root and leaf vs. jaundice. [zzzph]

***Vincetoxicum hirundinaria* Medik.**
Often called *Vincetoxicum officinale*. Also *Asclepias Vincetoxicum.* See also ***Vincetoxicum indicum*** for some plants reported as *Vincetoxicum hirundinaria.*

Spain: "matatósigo" (= kill-poison). [zzzde].
"Vencetóxigo" (= conqueror of poison). [zzzdc]
"vencetósigo". [zzzaa]
"Herva contraveneno" (= herb against-poison). [zzzdc]
"hirundinaria" (= swallow-like, from Latin “hirundo” – the bird swallow).[zzzaa]
France: "Dompte-venin" (= poison-tamer). [zzzdj]

Italy: "Vincetossico". [rrrhc]
Catalan: "erba de verí" (= poison herb).
"herba de bri" (= herb of silk/thread).
"pebrotera borda" (= vulgar pepper/capsicum plant).
"maseres",
"herba de bagul" (= chest herb).
"herba de cor" (= heart herb). [zzzaa]
Basque: "sarandoi".
"piper-bedarr".
"piper-belarr" (= pepper/capsicum herb). [zzzaa]

This plant was possibly the *Asklepias* of Dioscorides and Pliny. See the discussion in ***Vincetoxicum* spp.**

The 1554 *CruijdeBoeck* (Herb-Book) by Rembert Dodoens detailed the medicinal use of the plant in Europe.[rrrdv] There were even more details in the posthumous 1644 edition. [rrrdw] I will leave it to experts in historical Dutch medical terminology and typography to translate those details, I am afraid. In the 1644 edition, ***Vincetoxicum nigrum***, ***Cynanchum acutum*** and ***Periploca graeca*** were also mentioned.

There was a 1578 English translation of the 1554 *CruijdeBoeck* of Dodoens, which looks reasonably trustworthy. Root infusion drunk vs. griping pains in the belly and drunk with wine and leaves applied externally vs. venomous bites and rabid dog bites. Pounded leaves applied vs. malignant ulcers and corrupt sores of the breast and womb. [rrric]

In his 1749 *Materia Medica*, Linnæus included the plant he called "Asclepias caule erecto simplici herbaceo, foliis cordato-lanceolatis, racemis conglomeratis alternis". In the *Materia Medica* he gave some details of the plant he had encountered as frequent in Gotland, an island in the Baltic Sea. The dose of the root was given as 1 drachm - 3.7 grammes. The herb and distilled water were also used. Used to treat dropsy and variola (smallpox or similar poxes). Quality given as "*subvenenata*"- near poisonous. The virtues are given as "sudorifera" (provokes sweat), "diuretica" (provokes urine), "emmenagoga" (provokes menstruation) and "pellens"/"expellens" (drives or forces out, purges). Four years later Linnæus published the first book using his new binomial (two name) system - this plant was then called *Asclepias Vincetoxicum*. [rrrfp]

In 1848, the uses of the plant were reported. The fresh root is nauseating, pungent and unpleasant to taste. Some of that quality is lost on drying. Causes vomiting and more or less abundant bowel movements. People in Liège (Belgium) took 30 to 40 grains (1.9 to 2.5 grams) of the leaves in a glass of water as a light vomiting agent. Many practitioners attested to its use to drain excess fluid from the body. "Gilbert" (Gilibert in [zzzdc], so probably Jean-Emmanuel Gilibert but I have not found the original) had used high doses without incident, vs. herpes, anasarca, chlorosis and reduced menses, to increase urine production. Gilibert applied it externally to cleanse ulcers and prevent the spread of scrofula. He ascribed the efficacy of various compound mixtures to vincetoxicum. [rrrhc]

France, root or herb, dose to 1 drachm (1.77 grammes) sweat-provoking, diuretic, emmenagogue and vs. injuries and dropsy. [zzzdj]

Spain, 1 gramme of rhizome with roots boiled in 1 litre of water, left until cold and filtered provokes sweat and urine, probably due to its cardioactive effects. Larger doses are purgative and emetic and its use is dangerous as it is toxic. [zzzaa]

Spain, root nauseatingly smelly when first dug but almost completely loses the stink when dried. Small doses good for the urinary systems and the skin. Emetic, purge in large doses. Used vs. pustules, amenorrhoea, dropsical affections, syphilis, dropsy, liver problems, jaundice, etc. Dose, powdered root: 2-4 grammes, powdered leaf: 1 gramme. Leaf used externally to clean ulcers, resolve lymph and gland problems, cold abscesses and scrofulous evil. Because it is toxic, some practitioners did not use it. [zzzdc]

Catalonia, Alt Empordà, bath in infusion of fruiting aerial parts vs. pain and wounds. Also reported as toxic, emetic and a purge and used vs. catarrh, fever, throat inflammation, infection, dropsy and dermatosis. [zzzdb]

In 1848, the fluff from the seeds was recommended for filling pillows and matresses. The stem also produced a fine yard as good as hemp or flax. [rrrhc]

Vincetoxicum hispidum see ***Vincetoxicum hirsutum* (Wall.) Kuntze**

Vincetoxicum holstii see ***Cynanchum abyssinicum***

***Vincetoxicum inamoenum* Maxim.**
Usually reported as *Cynanchum inamoenum.*

China: 竹灵消 "zhu ling xiao" [zz141]
"zhú líng xiāo" [rrrbz]
Korean: 선백미꽃 [rrrid] "Seonbaekmi flower".

Traditional Chinese Medicine. One of the alternative species used as *bái wēi* instead of ***Vincetoxicum atratum*** or ***Vincetoxicum versicolor***. [rrrbz]

China, roots vs. scrofula, rupture, scabies and internal fever. [zz141] Roots vs. postpartum depression, pregnancy enuresis, scabies and lymphadenitis. [zzzip]

Korea. Medicinal. [rrrid]

***Vincetoxicum indicum* (Burm.f.) Mabb.**
Previously known as *Tylophora indica.*

India, Sanskrit: "Arkaparni",
"Lataksiri",
"Shwasaghni". [zz80]
Andhra Pradesh: "Mekhameyani Aku". [zzzsg]
Puttaparthi Mandal: "Kukkapala". [rrrbb]
Car Nicobar Island: "milahan". [zzzjp]
Hindi: "Antamul" (also Assamese, Bengali),
"Jangli pikvam",

Kannada: "Antamula",
"Nipaladaberu",
"Aadumuttada gida". [zz80]
Karnataka State: "naaihaale". [zzzbi]
Konkani: "Dadu-Valli". [zzzpm]
Maharashtra: "Antamul",
"Potmari". [zzzpk]
NW Ahmednagar: "Kavali". [rrrat]
Marathi: "Khadari",
"Pitthakaadi",
"Pitthamaari",
"Pitvel". [zz80]
Malayalam: "Nansjera-patsja". [zzzpm][zz80]
"Vallippala". [zz80]
Oriya: "Mendi",
"Mulini".[zz80]
Telugu: "Kakapala",
"Tellayadala",
"Verripala". [zz80]
Tamil: "Naippalai",
"Nancaruppan". [zz80]
Tamil Nadu: "nangilai". [zz107]
South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills: "Kaakittam". [zzzuo]

India, traditionally used vs. bronchial asthma, bronchitis, dermatitis, allergies and inflammation. [zz80] Maharashtra, leaves vs. asthma and whooping cough. [zzzpk] Tamil Nadu, South Western Ghats, Maruthamalai Hills, fresh leaves eaten daily vs. asthma. [zzzuo] India, Andhra Pradesh, extract of tender tips orally, daily for 14 days vs. bronchitis. Paste of tender tips orally in the early hours daily for a month vs. gastric trouble. [zzzsg]

Maharashtra, Northwest Ahmednagar. Glass of water extract of root, orally vs. fever. [rrrat]

India, Karnataka State, leaf infusion orally for lactation. [zzzbi] India, Haryana, Jhajjar District, Khetawas, Saperas community, used vs. female sex disorders. [zzzft]

Tamil Nadu, leaf juice orally vs. snakebite. Paste of leaf and root with equal amount of *Rauvolfia serpentina* (Apocynaceae) applied to snakebite. [zz107] India, Andhra Pradesh, Puttaparthi Mandal. Plant vs. asthma, snake bite, rabies. [rrrbb]

India, Car Nicobar Island, leaves with leaves of *Phyllanthus amarus* (Phyllanthaceae) and *Corchorus aestuans* (Malvaceae) rubbed over entire body vs. pain. [zzzjp]

Thailand, Prachup-khiri-khan Province, Pranburi District, Paknampran. Whole plant cardiotonic and vs. asthma. [zzzhf]

The ninth volume of the *Horti Malabarici* was published in 1689. One of the plants pictured and described was called *Nansjera-patsja* in Malayalam. KS Manilal identified the plant as *Tylophora indica*. [zzzpr] The identification as ***Hoya alexicaca*** seems less credible.

The author of the *Horti Malabarici* described the medicinal uses of the plant:

> "This entire plant, with the water of Lanja*, gets rid of the poison by vomiting; it is excellent if it is periodically smeared on the chest with true sandalwood, egg, and human milk. When pounded together with the root of Car-Elu-regon [?= Careloè-végon, *Aristolochia indica*], and the uncooked root of Orisæ [presumably Oryzæ, rice?], and smeared on the wounded part, a rabid cat bites in vain. The juice mixed with Codagen [*Centella asiatica*], Manga-Nari [*Limnophila aromatica*], Carinta-Tali [?= Karinta-Kali, *Geophila repens*] and Sandalwood mixed and daubed periodically, weakens the power of poisons. With the flowers of the wild palm, of Coluppæ [*Alternanthera sessilis*] and Samstru-vari [*Barringtonia racemosa*], taken with human milk, the medicine is completely alexipharmic (curing poison); with the root of Angolam [*Alangium salvifolium* subsp. *salvifolium*], Tiru-tali [*Ipomoea marginata*], and Amel-Podi [*Psychotria glandulosa*], if it is boiled with cow's milk and smeared on the head and chest, removes all internal poison, and the fainting and the diaphragm heat arising from it; so that the action of this plant is entirely as an alexikakon (averting evil/disease)."

* If I understand correctly this is a name for an unripe coconut.
In the original Latin:

> "Integra hæc planta cum aqua *Lanjæ* venenum per vomitum expellit; idem præstat si cum *Sandalo* vero, *ovo* ac muliebri *lacte*, temporibus atque pectori inungatur. Trita cum radice *Car-Elu-regon*, atque *Orisæ* incocta *radix* , ac læsæ parti illita, rabidi felis morsum frustra facit. *Succus* cum *Codagen*, *Manga-Nari*, *Carinta-Tali* & *Sandalo* mixtus ac temporibus illitus, toxici vires infringit. Cum floribus *Palmæ* agrestis, *Coluppæ* & *Samstru-vari* cum muliebri *lacte* sumtus, plane medicamentum eft Alexipharmacum; cum radice *Angolam*, *Tiru-tali* & *Amel-Podi* vaccino *lacti* si incoquatur, capitique ac pectori illinatur, omne virus internum, & inde ortam syncopen ac præcordiorum æstum tollit ; ita ut hujus plantæ energeia in totum sit alexicaca." [zzzpm]

Vincetoxicum hirundinaria is not found in India or Pakistan. The closest nation where that species is native is Kazakhstan. These last references below all claim to be using *Vincetoxicum hirundinaria* but as they are from India and Pakistan, they must have been for a different but similar species, probably *Vincetoxicum indicum*.

Pakistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Harighal: "Medhshingi". [zzzor] Pakistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Harighal, aerial parts decoction orally vs. boils and pimples. [zzzor]

India, North western Himalaya, Manali, whole plant, juice as diaphoretic, diuretic, emetic and vs. dropsy, boils, pimples. [zzzce] Toxic. [zzzde]

Vincetoxicum indicum* var. *indicum
Reported as *Tylophora asthmatica*.

India,	Bengali:	"Unta-mool",
	Telugu:	"Kaka-palla". [zzzcc]
Sri Lanka,	Sinhala:	"Maha-nuga-wel",
		"Bin-nuga",
	Tamil:	"Peypalai",
		"Nancharapanchan". [zzzds]

Beneficial in humoral asthma and valuable in provoking sweating. [zzzdh]

India, Coromandel Coast. Used by native and European doctors as a substitute for Ipecac (also [zzzds] and often just called Ipecac) at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries. Large dose emetic, small, repeated doses cathartic. Native use as emetic and purge, bark of three or four inches of fresh root, rubbed on a stone and mixed with water. Acknowledged by European doctors as more successful than anything they had vs. dysentery. [zzzcc] Leaf and root official in the Bengal Pharmacopoeia of 1844 as a substitute for ipecac. [zzzcr]

Indochina. As emetic and purgative vs. dysentery and catarrh. Leaf said to be stronger than the root. [zzzcv]

In 1848, reported as used in the Île-de-France against chest diseases. [rrrhc]

2.7% hydrocarbon/rubber. [zzzaq]

***Vincetoxicum kerrii* (Craib) A.Kidyoo**
Reported as *Tylophora kerrii.*

China: 人参娃儿藤 "ren shen wa er teng" (= ginseng tylophora). [zz141]

China. Roots vs. snake bites and tumorous swellings. [zz141]

Vincetoxicum kitagawae see ***Vincetoxicum inamoenum***

***Vincetoxicum koi* (Merr.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora koi*.

China: 通天連 "tong tian lian". [zz141]

China. Used vs. traumatic injury and snake bites. [zz141]

***Vincetoxicum lineare* (Decne.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Daemia kempeana*, *Pentatropis kempeana* and *Rhyncharrhena linearis.*

Australia, Eastern Arreernte: "ngerake". [zzzuw]
Far Northwest South Australia, Musgrave Ranges: "Ngurrak". [zzzin]
Northern Territory, Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara: "Puya". [zzziw]
Central Australia, Alyawara: "wurrpa". [zzzkw]
South Australia, Fraser Range: "Tau". [rrrgh]
English: "bush bean". [zzzuw]

Australia, flowers, leaves and young seed pods eaten. [zzzuw] South Australia, Fraser Range. In 1896, the flowers and buds were reported to be much appreciated by the native peoples. Taste like the seeds of the common marshmallow (*Althaea officinalis*, Malvaceae). No ill effects though the author ate "a number of them". [rrrgh] Far Northwest South Australia, Musgrave Ranges, in 1927, plant collector reported "edible". [zzzin] Australia, Northern Territory, leaves eaten raw or lightly roasted. Young long, bean-like fruits eaten raw or roasted on hot coals. Older fruit eaten after fibrous centre removed. [zzziw] Central Australia, Alyawara, fruit eaten. Leaf and flower eaten raw. Available in any season with suitable rainfall. [zzzkw]

***Vincetoxicum linifolium* Balf.f.**
Previously *Cynanchum linifolium*.

Socotra, Soqotri simplified: "mizuwkan". Also used of ***Cynanchum gerrardi***
"gheqqihiyn",
"eqqihiyn", Plural: " 'aqahan". Also used for ***Cryptolepis*** spp., ***Cynanchum gerrardi***, and ***Secamone*** spp.
"meyrih". Plural: " 'emrihor". See ***Cryptolepis socotrana***, ***Cynanchum gerrardi***, ***Stephanotis arabica*** and some plants from other families: *Cocculus pendulus*, *Euphorbia obcordata* and *Euphorbia socotrana*. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Latex vs. swellings, especially raised neck glands. [rrrbd]

Socotra. Herding staffs are made from thicker, straight branches. Slimmer branches in devices for weaning kids and lambs. Made into "bows" for beating wool to prepare it for spinning. Carved into spindles for spinning wool. Flexible branches used for the wooden rim of leather watering buckets. Suitable crooked pieces cut for fodder hooks, to get foliage within reach. Dead stems as firesticks. [rrrbd]

***Vincetoxicum longifolium* (Wight) Kuntze**
Reported as *Tylophora longifolia*.

India, southern Tamil Nadu, leaf/flower used vs. snakebite. [zzzbh]

***Vincetoxicum microcentrum* (Tsiang) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Biondia microcentra*.

China: 祛風藤 "qu feng teng" (= remove wind vine). [zz141]

China, decoction of all parts vs. rheumatism and internal fever. [zz141]

***Vincetoxicum mongolicum* Maxim.**
Reported as *Cynanchum hancockianum* and *Cynanchum komarovii.*

China: 華北白前 "hua bei bai qian". [zzzau, zz141]

Mongolia, entire plant vs. cancer. China, root vs. cancer. [zzzas] China, all parts internally for pain relief, externally vs. rheumatoid arthritis, traumatic injury and abscesses. [zz141] China, plant as analgesic, anthelminthic and antidiarrhoeal and vs. cholecystitis. [zzzdo] China, whole herb vs. pain in joints, toothache, bald sores. [zzzau]

***Vincetoxicum nigrum* Moench**
Spain, "alcaudeca",
"candeca",
"hierba del muermo",
"hornaballo",
"luza",
"matatósigo negro",
"vencetósigo negro",
"yerba lucera". [zzzde]
Sierra Norte de Madrid, Bustarviejo: "hierba de la hilera". [zzzda]

Though not mentioned in the 1554 “CruijdeBoeck” (Herb-Book) by Rembert Dodoens [rrrdv] this species was included in the posthumous 1644 edition.[rrrdw] In both editions, ***Vincetoxicum hirundinaria*** was also mentioned. ***Cynanchum acutum*** and ***Periploca graeca*** were mentioned in the 1644 edition. I will leave it to experts in historical Dutch medical terminology and typography to translate those details, I am afraid.

Spain, pain relief and antipyretic. Spain, Sierra Norte de Madrid, Bustarviejo, leaf decoction in humans to clean the liver. [zzzda]

Leaf decoction with Roman chamomile (*Chamaemelum nobile*, Asteraceae), sharp dock (*Rumex conglomeratus*, Polygonaceae) and yellow gentian root (*Gentiana lutea*, Gentianaceae) to clean the "librito", one of the stomach parts in ruminants. This also kills parasites and breaks and ejects stones in the liver. Decoction with other bitter herbs - rue (*Ruta graveolens*, Rutaceae), Roman chamomile, yellow gentian root - is given with a bottle when sheep lose their appetites. Listless sheep are healed with the leaf decoction. In Segovia the seeds are used for the same purpose. Leaf decoction given when goats are sad and their eyes weepy, indicating liver problems. Leaf decoction given to chickens to prevent illness. The herb is collected from the wild. [zzzda]

***Vincetoxicum nipponicum* (Matsum.) Kitag.**
Reported as *Cynanchum nipponicum* var. *glabrum.*

Korea: 덩굴박주가리. [rrrid]

Korea. Medicinal. [rrrid]

***Vincetoxicum oblongum* (N.E.Br.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora oblonga.*

Burkina Faso, Forêt Classee de Niangoloko, Goin: "Katriwo". [rrraj]

Burkina Faso, Forêt Classee de Niangoloko. Shoots boiled and used a wash vs. chronic ulcers. Fresh leaves pounded, mixed with kaolinite and applied vs chronic ulcers. [rrraj]

***Vincetoxicum oculatum* (N.E.Br.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora oculata*.

Burkina Faso, Forêt Classee de Niangoloko, Goin: "Kanŋgaserŋo". [rrraj]

Burkina Faso, Forêt Classee de Niangoloko. Fresh leaves pounded, mixed with a little water and applied to the affected part vs "Mieloungou", a unidentified disease. [rrraj]

Vincetoxicum officinale see ***Vincetoxicum hirundinaria***

Vincetoxicum paniculatum (R.Br.) Kuntze from Australia must not be confused with *Cynanchum paniculatum* (Bunge) Kitag. *ex* H.Hara, which is now ***Vincetoxicum bungei* (G.Don) Cai F.Zhang & G.W.Hu**, though confusion would be understandable.

***Vincetoxicum* x *purpurascens* C.Morren & Decne.**
Reported as *Cynanchum japonicum* var. *purpurascens.*

China: 白前 "bai qian". [rrrcf]
Japan: “Murasaki-suzume-no-ogoke”. [zzzra]

Rhizome and roots used vs. bronchial and lung troubles. Malay States, imported from Szechuan for use vs. liver complaints. Stated to grow in “Central China”, exported from Guangzhou (Canton). *Vincetoxicum* × *purpurascens* is now considered to only grow in Japan. [rrrcf] Clearly that 1929 article was the source for the information in [zz177]. See also the Chinese species found in Sichuan and Guandong that are called “bai qian” - ***Vincetoxicum forrestii***, ***Vincetoxicum glaucescens***, ***Vincetoxicum mongolicum***, ***Vincetoxicum stauntonii*** and ***Vincetoxicum versicolor***.

Vincetoxicum renchangii **(Tsiang) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora glabra*.

China: 長梗娃兒藤 "chang geng wa er teng" (= long-stemmed tylophora). [zz141]

China, roots vs. traumatic injury, fractures. Leaves vs. viper bites. [zz141]

Vincetoxicum rotundifolium **Buch.-Ham. ex Wight**
Reported as *Tylophora rotundifolia.*

Thailand, Ubon Ratchathani province, Ubon: "Tupmup khruea",
Thai: "Komko lot khon". [zzzsx]

Thailand, Ubon Ratchathani province. Decoction of whole plant orally vs. bodily discomfort. [zzzsx]

Vincetoxicum saepimentorum see ***Cynanchum unifarium***

Vincetoxicum secamonoides **(Tsiang) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora secamonoides.*

China: 蛇膽草 "she dan cao" (= snake bile grass). [zz141]

China, Guangxi. Roots vs. cough. [zz141]

Vincetoxicum shortii see ***Odontostephana obliqua***

Vincetoxicum sibiricum see ***Cynanchum thesioides***

Vincetoxicum spirale **(Forssk.) D.Z.Li**
Yemen: "Schuntob". [zz74]

Yemen, as Arabia Felix in 1775. Published 12 years after the author Peter Forsskål died at the age of 31 in Yemen:

> "*Fruit* follicle, edible. Bush not producing milk. ... ...
> Seeds sweet, esteemed as a medication against stomach ache."

Original in Latin:

> "*Fructus* folliculus, edulis. Frutex non lacteseit. ... ...
> Semina dulcia, medicamen laudatum contra tormina ventris." [zz74]

***Vincetoxicum stauntonii* (Decne.) C.Y.Wu & D.Z.Li**
Usually reported as *Cynanchum stauntonii.*

China: "bái qián" (= white before). [rrrbz]
柳葉白前 "liu ye bai qian". [zz141, zzzau]
"liǔ yè bái qián" [rrrbz] (= “willow leaf white before”).
"bai qian" [zzzax]

Traditional Chinese Medicine. One of the two main species used as bái qián with ***Vincetoxicum glaucescens***. The first known mention in literature was in the *Miscellaneous Records of Famous Physicians*, probably written around 500AD. Can be irritating to the stomach walls. Mostly used for lung problems. The best quality consists of just the hollow rhizomes with no roots. [rrrbz]

Root and rootstock collected in the fall, vs. coughs, asthma and as expectorant. *Vincetoxicum glaucescens* is regarded as equivalent. [zzzax]

China, root and rhizome vs. lung qi stasis, phlegmy cough, chest fullness and rapid asthma. [zzzau] China, all parts decoction febrifuge and vs. internal fever. Roots vs. tuberculosis of lungs, infant malnutrition due to gut parasites, influenza, cough, chronic bronchitis. [zz141] Rhizomes used dry or processed with honey. *Asparagus schoberioides* and *Iris dichotoma* used as substitutes in Henan and Jiangsu respectively. [zz177]

Vincetoxicum stenanthum see ***Gonolobus stenanthus***

Vincetoxicum steppicola see ***Vincetoxicum forrestii***

***Vincetoxicum sylvaticum* (Decne.) Kuntze**
Reported as *Tylophora sylvatica* Decne.

French Equatorial Africa (now Central African Republic), Boukoko: "molo-mbondo". [zzznf]

Central African Republic, Boukoko, leaves eaten as spinach greens, "On mange les feuilles en épinards" in the original French. [zzznf]

Southern Ivory Coast, concoction of leaves used by some traditional practicioners vs. allergic conditions including asthma. [zzzne]

Vincetoxicum thesioides see ***Cynanchum thesioides***

***Vincetoxicum versicolor* (Bunge) Decne.**
Usually reported as *Cynanchum versicolor.*

China: "màn shēng bái wēi" [rrrbz]
變色白前 "bian se bai qian". [zz141]
"baiwei". [zzzax]

Traditional Chinese Medicine. One of the two main species used as bái wēi with ***Vincetoxicum atratum***. The first known mention in literature was in the *Divine Husbandman's Classic of the Materia Medica*, probably written before 200AD. [rrrbz]

Overdose can be toxic, affecting the heart. [rrrbz]

China, roots and rhizomes diuretic and vs. tuberculosis of lungs, oedema and gonorrhoea. [zz141] China. Used as *Vincetoxicum atratum*. [zzzax] Roots and stems vs. fevers. [zzzip]

See also ***Vincetoxicum atratum***, ***Vincetoxicum amplexicaule, Vincetoxicum inamoenum***, ***Vincetoxicum bungei*** and ***Vincetoxicum forrestii.***

Vincetoxicum yunnanense **(Schltr.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora yunnanensis.*

China: 云南娃儿藤 "yun nan wa er teng" [zz141] (= "Yunnan *Tylophora*").

China. Roots used vs. malaria and fever. Seed fluff to stop bleeding. [zz141]

Vincetoxicum zeylanicum **(Decne.) Meve & Liede**
Reported as *Tylophora zeylanica.*

India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe: "Palaikeerai". [zzztf]

India, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats, Sirumalai Hills, Paliyan tribe. Powdered leaves as snuff vs. respiratory trouble. [zzztf]

Voharanga madagascariensis see ***Cynanchum arenarium***

W

Wattakaka corrugata see ***Kushengia sinensis* var. *corrugata***

Wattakaka sinensis see ***Kushengia sinensis***

Wattakaka sinensis var. *corrugata* see ***Kushengia sinensis* var. *corrugata***

Wattakaka volubilis see ***Stephanotis volubilis***

***White-sloanea crassa* (N.E.Br.) Chiov. {Ceropegieae - Stapeliinae}**
Somalia: "Arorghala". [zzzos]

Somalia, Burao, Upper Sheik and Go'o. Edible and sweet flesh, "readily consumed, particularly in times of drought". [zzzos]

Initially confused with "Dinah" (*Pseudolithos* species) but those were found to be "as bitter as quinine" and were reported as never eaten by the locals. [zzzos]

Slightly pathetic 11 month old seedling, 4.1 g. Very slightly bitter, like ***Apteranthes*** species. Quite dense and chewy like a swede. The bottom of the plant was more tender and juicy but also more bitter. No other flavours I could detect. Adult, well-grown plants are likely to be quite different. [me]

X

Xysmalobium acerateoides **N.E.Br. {Asclepiadeae - Asclepiadinae}**
Swaziland: "umdzayi". See also ***Asclepias buchwaldii.***

Swaziland, edible leaves & fruit. [zz144]

Xysmalobium asperum **N.E.Br.**
Swaziland: "umdzayana".

Swaziland, edible leaves. [zz144]

Xysmalobium confusum **Scott-Elliot**
Swaziland: "lichogina". See also ***Xysmalobium orbiculare***.

Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144]

Xysmalobium heudelotianum **Decne.**
Gambia, Kombo Kingdom: "Yakhose",
"Yâkhosse". [zzzma]
Senegal, Wolof: "yahhop".
Nigeria, Hausa: "lujiyar-mahalba" or
"rujihar-mahalba". [zz59]
Burkina Faso, Seno & Nayala Provinces, "Kirimougoin". [zzzwa]

Gambia, Kombo Kingdom, in 1835 the plant collector Jean-Pierre Heudelot, after whom the specific name of this species was coined, recorded on the herbarium sheet:

> "Tuberous root like a turnip reaching the size of 3 inches in diameter at the largest part: it is very watery. The blacks eat it and say that it has a pleasant taste."

In the original French:

> "Racine tubereuse napiforme atteignant la gross. de 3 pouces de diametre à la partie majeuse: elle est très aqueuse. Les nègres la mangent et la disent d'un gout agréable." [zzzma]

N. Nigeria, bitter, eaten vs. stomach troubles. Said to be edible but this might be confusion with *Raphionacme*. [zz59] Burkina Faso, Seno & Nayala Provinces, raw roots eaten to suppress appetite during famine. [zzzwa] Toxic cardiac glycosides like digitalis. [zzzag]

***Xysmalobium involucratum* (E. Mey.) Decne.**
South Africa, isiZulu: "udelunina" = "forsaking ones mother". [zz211]
Swaziland: "udambisa omkhulu". [zz144]

If ingested by a girlfriend/boyfriend, they leave their mother and go to live with the partner. A concoction of the stem-tuber is used to sprinkle around the homestead as a protective charm. [zz211] South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, "Charm". No further details. [zzziz] Swaziland, sprinkling charm vs. evil. [zz144]

***Xysmalobium orbiculare* (E.Mey.) D.Dietr.**
Reported as *Gomphocarpus orbicularis*.

Swaziland: "lichogina". See also ***Xysmalobium confusum***.

Used vs. dogs that steal food. [zz144]

***Xysmalobium parviflorum* Harv. ex Scott-Elliot**
Lesotho: "leoto-la-khoho". [zzzrr]
Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "Leoto la Khoko" (= "the foot of a fowl"), "Ntsine". [zzznz]

Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "A medicine for colic is prepared from it." [zzznz] Lesotho: drunk vs. colic. [zzzrr]

***Xysmalobium undulatum* (L.) W.T. Aiton**
S. Africa, Southern Sotho: "poho-tšehla" (= yellow bull) [zzzrr, zz139, zz211].
"leshokoa". [zzzrr]
Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, Sesuto: "leshokhoa". [zzznz]
Mareu district: "Poho-ts'ehla". [zzzrp]
Basuto: "mafifi matso". [zzzan]
Xhosa: "iyeza elimhlophe",
"nwachaba",
"ishongwane". [zz211]
Zulu: "iShongwane",
"iShongwe",
"iShinga". [zz211]
Swaziland: "lishongwe",
"umdzayi". [zz211]

Namibia, Herero: "ombaruru". [zzzsl]
Afrikaans: "Bitterwortel" (= bitter root), see also ***Asclepias crispa***. [zzzbn]
"melkbos" (= milk bush) [zzzbn]
German: Uzarawurzel. [zz37] "In Germany it is well-known as uzara root." [zzzsl]

Southern Sotho, young leaves as spinach or green vegetable. [zz211] Swaziland, young leaves are edible. [zz144] Southern Africa, leaf as snack and vegetable. [zzznw] Lesotho, Leribe Plateau, "The young leaves are eaten as a spinach." [zzznz]

Basuto. Used in an intoxicating mixture called "sehoere". [zzzan]

Lesotho. Used vs. heartburn, worms in children and as a decongestant. Powdered roots vs. headaches. [zzzrr] Swaziland, roots for indigestion, fever, colds, diarrhoea & urethral discharge. [zz144] S. Africa, root vs. hysteria. [zzzbj] S. Africa, powdered root medicinally vs. wounds, abscesses, headaches, painful menstrual cramps, indigestion, colic, abdominal troubles, diarrhoea, dysentery, food poisoning, bad colds, malaria and other fever (including typhoid), and as an antispasmodic, bitter tonic and as an emetic in poisoning. Latex applied to festering wounds to avoid maggots. [zz211] Lesotho, medicinal [zz139]. Lesotho, Mareu district: roots vs. headache, diabetes, tuberculosis, cervical cancer, phlegm. In the top ten of herbs mentioned by traditional healers, herbalists and a pharmacist. [zzzrp] South African, Zulu/Xhosa/Sotho, medicinal "Gastrointestinal - includes use as emetic". "Tonic". "Headaches - snuffed or inhaled". "Nervous - includes use as emetic". "Skin". "Charm". No further details. [zzziz]

Southern Africa, latex applied vs. warts, rashes, wounds and corns but care should be taken as it burns somewhat. Dried and powdered root can be snuffed vs. headaches. Decoction vs. gastric disturbances, colds, coughs and wounds. [zzzsl]

Germany, dried underground parts of 2-3 year old plants are an approved herb in the Commision E Monographs. Used vs. acute diarrhoea. Contains cardenolide glycosides and in high dosages can have toxic digitalis-like effects on the heart. For medicinal use, a single dose up to the equivalent of 1g of herb or 75mg of total glycosides, daily dosage 45-90mg of total glycosides. [zz37]

Swaziland, used as pesticide and dye. [zz144]

South Africa, used in magic to divert storms and make dogs keen hunters. The bitter root powder is sprinkled on skins and hides to prevent dogs from gnawing them. The bitter latex of this and other species is used to deter dogs from stealing eggs. [zz211]

Y

There are no currently recognised genera in the whole family Apocynaceae that begin with the letter Y.

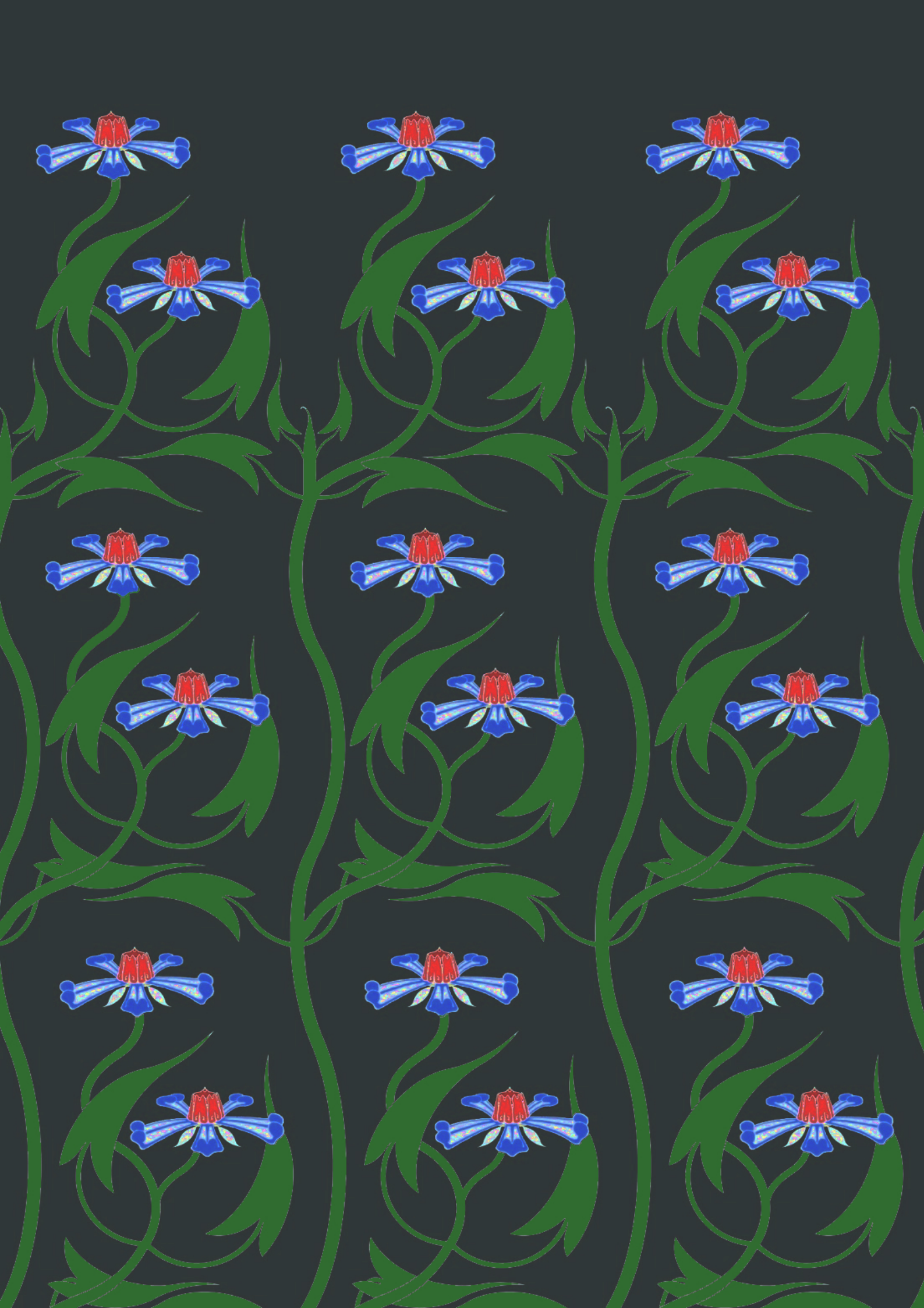
Z

Zaczatea angolensis see ***Raphionacme angolensis***

Zucchellia angolensis see ***Raphionacme welwitschii***

Zygostelma benthamii **Baill. {Periplocoideae}**
Thailand: "Khruea-khao-luak",
"Tam-yan-tua-phu". [zzzsm]
"op-choei-thao". [zzzhc, zzzsm] See also ***Finlaysonia pierrei***.
Laos, Sainyabuli: “Kăm nhan din”. [rrreg]

Northeast Thailand, edible, gathered from forests in the wet season, May to October. [zzzhe] Thailand, Chai Nat province, Nern Kham District. Root used in preparation of palo (five-spice) curry. [rrreh]

Thailand, stems analgesic vs. headache and lumbo-sacral pain. [zzzhc][zzzhj] Thailand. Root in folk medicine as a carminative, heart tonic, antispasmodic and vs. vertigo. [rrred] Laos, Sainyabuli. Herbarium specimen from 1965 has a note “Médicinal”. [rrreg]

Fresh root contains 0.02% 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde [zzzhc]. Fresh root, 0.51% of 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde recovered by extraction. [rrred] I have just coined the name mondillin for 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde, for the June 2026 revision of this book – see ***Mondia whitei***.